

Mr. James Spilman

Dear Jim:

Your nice letter of February 27 raises a lot of interesting problems and I will comment on <sup>some of</sup> them as best I can.

I am enclosing my silver specimen of the Douglas

96-VV which you will note is ~~convex~~ <sup>the obverse</sup> as the A.N.S.

dies are, <sup>and</sup> ~~which~~ has the die break at the sun. ~~which~~ is from the

~~same source as~~ generally similar, but different, from my 104 designation and the reverse shows no particular difference from F & T. I will be interested in your comments after you study it.

In addition I am enclosing <sup>a cracked</sup> ~~the~~ sealing wax im-

pression of the Mattatuck die, this being the best ~~one~~ <sup>impression</sup> I was

able to obtain after years of <sup>requests</sup> ~~correspondence~~. I have never

taken its picture, <sup>and I have no other</sup> You may <sup>photo it</sup> ~~take~~, if you wish, <sup>or I will on its return</sup> ~~I plan to take~~

~~its picture, in due course, if you do not.~~ I had hoped to get

a better impression but, apparently, both of us have found

it unusually difficult to <sup>secure</sup> ~~have~~ better service from the organization.

<sup>I have no particular</sup>

~~the~~ theory on the multiple dies of the New Haven

style. <sup>A</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>might have been</sup> ~~xxx~~ pair of actual dies <sup>could have</sup> ~~were~~ found. Hubs ~~were~~

<sup>from</sup> ~~been~~ made ~~at~~ each so that if the original dies broke in the restrik-

ing additional dies could be made. The original pair of dies

could have been <sup>cracked</sup> ~~used~~ <sup>so they could</sup> for restriking and the obverse ~~was~~ <sup>cracked</sup> ~~was thrown out~~, in due course ~~and~~ <sup>was made from the hub</sup>

~~The dies made from the hub resulted in the fracture on the~~

~~right side of the sun and the bowing of the hub. This is a~~

~~speculation which requires study.~~ If hubs were found then the letters would have to be punched into the die as I do not believe the letters of WE ARE ONE are different from the original ones. I am sure there was no screw press in 1787 with Would they have kept the letter punches? I doubt it.

sufficient capacity to <sup>make</sup> transfer dies through hubbing because

the United States Mint did ~~not~~ <sup>not develop</sup> ~~adopt~~ this procedure until 1834.

I do not know whether a drop press or a screw press was used

for the coins and, naturally, would be interested in your

rotation of reverses to see whether this gives any relevant

clues. I do not think there were any hinged die ~~pairs~~ <sup>pairs as that was not</sup> ~~used~~ <sup>than</sup> ~~used~~.

~~believe the dies were made by simple punches and that the letter-~~

~~ing was punched in by individual letters occasionally into~~  
~~the letters of UNITED STATES were definitely on the hubs~~  
~~the hub but generally into the finished die.~~

with the blanks and punched into the dies generally of all reverses.

The only answer I am sure of which I can give you

to a question you ask ~~which is~~ <sup>is</sup> ~~as to why the Fugios~~

worn. It come so ~~well circulated~~ <sup>well</sup> is simply that all Colonial copper coins

after their collapse in value, in 1789, were revived a ~~few~~ <sup>year or so</sup>

~~years~~ thereafter and circulated as copper coinage <sup>along with US cents & half cents</sup> until about

~~18~~ 1830. That is why Connecticut, Vermont, Fugios, Novas,

etc. are so well worn. This is another ~~topic I study~~ <sup>topic I study</sup> ~~subject~~ of mine

~~because I cannot find out~~

~~as to~~ what they circulated for and I have an extensive file

on it. <sup>#</sup> Fred Boyd had about 50 specimens <sup>of Fugios</sup> in his collection

when I examined ~~them~~ <sup>it</sup>

I feel that the Fugios are tremendously important and that their being the first official United States coin is something which is not generally recognized from an importance point of view. They are treated like any other Colonials by most people.

Cut me in on your comparison of the interior sun dial ornaments as these seem to be punched in after the hub was used.  
~~As to~~ As to the club rays I thought these were for emphasis and not to correct a defect.

# SPILMAN ENGINEERING ASSOCIATES

1418 FLAMINGO LANE  
GARLAND, TEXAS

22 April 1961

CONSULTING ENGINEERS  
ELECTRONICS AND AUTOMATIC CONTROL

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.  
400 Washington Avenue  
St. Louis 2, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman:

I would certainly appreciate your sending a set of prints, as you mentioned in your last letter, of the existing Fugio Cent die varieties. They would be very helpful indeed.

I received a letter from Richard Picker in which he mentioned his recent visit with you and the decision to work out a more comprehensive rarity scale for the Fugios. This is certainly needed - I am convinced that there are many more Fugios around than are indicated by the present scale. I am presently making up a comprehensive list of my collection for insurance purposes and will send you a copy when it is completed - in the meantime I am enclosing a separate sheet without much detail other than variety.

The order of die sinking can be determined from the chipping of the master hubs which is progressive from die to die - but is very difficult to distinguish, especially on reverses where there is very little fine detail to chip. Along this same line - I assume that you are aware that the original intent was that the sun dial would not be ornamented between numbers - and the reason that it was changed. If not, this is an interesting sequence of events which I shall be glad to discuss later with you.

As for the order of striking... I once thought this to be a very straight forward thing to accomplish but have since concluded that this is by no means the case. I believe that the same combinations came together more than once - especially in the case of X, B, M, U, KK with the 8, 11, 12, 13 and 20. You mention a new KK, I would expect that it would most probably be a 11, 13, or 18. I have tried to construct a family tree which combines the apparent order of striking with rarity and other factors with some success. The general quality of workmanship and order of die sinking fits pretty well also. Things got pretty sloppy late in the history of the Fugios. Much of my data is still uncorrelated - actually it is still being generated - but I will send along what I can as I have the time.

I guess I should mention the technique for determining some of these things which may seem impossible. I have been working with the "struck through" characteristics which Crosby mentions on page 300 of his book. This of course is simply mutual die

damage resulting from the dies coming together without a planchet in place - relative hardness of the dies must be taken into account at this point - and the resulting deformation shows on subsequent coins until the dies begin to smooth out as they do because of the changes in hardness of the die metal due to the impact. As the dies become interchanged the relative markings fail to match and new combinations of markings appear. Well- after you work with these for awhile you discover that it is possible to read out of these markings the history of the various dies and to identify combinations of dies which are unknown. This is quite difficult and is easily subject to error since the dies were forever shifting in relation to each other and generated a lot of confusing detail - especially in the form of relative rotation. Do you know if any of the original dies are in existence ? I have concluded that they were not keyed, otherwise the rotation could not have taken place and the upset reverses would not have occurred. Do you know if the New Haven dies are keyed? I have some comments on these also but will not take the time here.

Needless to say, all of this takes a lot of time and many coins, well struck and in Fine+ condition. I have calculated that there might have been as many as 32 million Fugio Cents struck - assuming that all the copper mentioned by Crosby was converted into coin - and if you go further and attempt to to estimate the time required for this job and the number of drop presses, the number of dies, etc. etc. \*WOW\* In any case, there may well be enough good specimens available to complete this work.

Well - some of this information on the "struck through" Fugios is what I have promised to write up for Al Hoch for the Colonial Newsletter. I hope that you will find it of interest also. Incidentally, I have just obtained the 11-B and 13-X Double Struck Fugios from Q. David Bowers - he mentioned that you had examined them. I believe that I can place the 11-B double strike quite nicely in the history of this combination - it appears to have been intentional. The 13-X I think was unintentional, having hung to the top die and dropped off just an instant before the second blow onto the blank planchet already in place. Its matching mate - the lower planchet - may turn up someday. They both probably went into circulation.

I have concluded also that there is an ?-A combination as well as 11-A. There are ST marks on my A which do not match the 11 die, but I have not yet been able to identify the die. I need to examine more A's.

More later.

Very truly yours,

  
James C. Spilman

## SPILMAN ENGINEERING ASSOCIATES

1418 FLAMINGO LANE  
GARLAND, TEXASCONSULTING ENGINEERS  
ELECTRONICS AND AUTOMATIC CONTROL

Fugio Vinties in my permanent collection.

1-B

3-D \*

4-E

6-W \*

7-T (2) (1)\*

8-B

8-X

9-P (2)

9-Q \* This may not be Q, but it  
is NOT S, P, T or L.!

10-T

11-B Double Struck, 2 dates

11-A

11-X (2)

12-M (2)

12-X

12-U (2) (1)\*

13-X (2) One Double Struck,  
2 dates

13-N

13-R (2) (1)\*

14-O

15-Y (2) Both\*

15-H

16-N (2)

17-S (2)

18-U (2)

18-H

19-Z \*

19-SS Upset Reverse

21-I (2) One single

One Quadrup  
STDo you know of any  
without any die damage

22-M Upset Reverse

104-FF Copper \*

104-FF Brass \*

\* Those marked are previously  
unidentified and are known  
positively not to have been  
included in any previous  
Census on Fugio. JCS

Photo: I have just returned to Hollinsbeck Kay  
one each 10-G and 1-B both of which  
they were carrying as "unidentified vinties".  
They did not know what they were!! -?  
This B is a beautiful example of the A over  
and Rose N as on all B's. (Unremovable)

April 28, 1961

Mr. James C. Spilman  
1418 Flamingo Lane  
Garland, Texas

Dear Mr. Spilman:

Your letter was sincerely stimulating and I think we are going to have a lot of fun corresponding. I agree that Fugios are more common than the rarity scale previously published.

When you make your list of Fugios for insurance purposes, please get the weight of each coin, in grains, so that I have this data also.

You say that the sun dial was not to be ornamented between the numbers and I would like to ask you why you have come to that conclusion. I know that the hub impressions have no numbers but other hubs were made. Why was this design changed? I am enclosing another hub impression which you may not be familiar with. It is my number 102.

I am going to send you photographs of the Fugios and am having the prints made now. It is very important that if any of your coins will make better pictures than those I have, I would like to have the opportunity of photographing them. I am particularly interested if the Reverse Ijis better than the picture I have.

Two original dies are in existence, to my knowledge, and I am checking up on whether they have keys. I believe they are merely round. The New Haven obverse die apparently broke and I am enclosing a picture of the die breaks which appeared.

You say you already know about the 12 KK so I have nothing new to offer on that score.

Yesterday Al Hoch called me from Boston and had a nice chat with me.

You are a genius if you can tell the die varieties from clicking marks. I am particularly interested in photographing your two specimens of 21-I as you indicate there is a double set of clicking marks on one and a single set on the other. This is important to show.

Page 2

April 28, 1961

Mr. James C. Spilman

My description of Q is bad and therefore your difficulty with respect to 9-Q is because of my stupidity. This will be corrected as I think I mixed up the L and Q description.

Please keep up your comments and we will solve many of the problems of this amazing group of coins.

Cordially,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb



May 4, 1961

Mr. James C. Spilman  
1418 Flamingo Lane  
Garland, Texas

Dear Mr. Spilman:

As promised, I am enclosing photographs of the Fugio pieces which will enable you to work on them more easily. Dies 102, 105, KK and J are not included in this group.

I hope these are helpful and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

# SPILMAN ENGINEERING ASSOCIATES

1418 FLAMINGO LANE  
GARLAND, TEXAS

CONSULTING ENGINEERS  
ELECTRONICS AND AUTOMATIC CONTROL

16 May 1961

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
400 Washington Avenue  
St. Louis 2, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman:

I have completed the comparison of my collection with your photographs and have concluded that I have several that will be better than the ones which you have. These are the two 21-I, a 14-C, and a 22-M. On the 22-M the left foot of the sundial shows extensive recutting which should photograph nicely and the reverse, which is upset, shows clicking marks of the sundial base in two positions, above and below the WE ARE ONE. I hope these will photograph sufficiently well for reproduction.

Please let me know when you want these and your shipping instructions.

Very truly yours,



James C. Spilman

JCS/s

May 19, 1961

Mr. James C. Spilman  
1418 Flamingto Lane  
Garland, Texas

Dear Mr. Spilman:

Please be kind enough to send the 4 coins to me promptly for photography. You may send them directly to my office by any method which gives you peace of mind. I find certified mail more than adequate and prefer first class mail to parcel post.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb



## Willard Hotel

PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE AND FOURTEENTH STREET - NATIONAL 8-4420

*The Residence of Presidents*

25 May 1961

Dear Mr. Newman,

Your letter of 19 May was forwarded to me in Washington,

I will sling the Fujios to you on about Wednesday of next week when I will be back in Dallas,

Sincerely,

June 20, 1961

Mr. James C. Spilman  
Spilman Engineering Associates  
1418 Flamingo Lane  
Garland, Texas

Dear Mr. Spilman:

I wish to thank you for lending me the five Fugios from your collection which you forwarded me on May 31 and I am returning the same herewith. I am also sending you obverse and reverse prints of both specimens of your 21-D and the reverse of your 14-O.

You raised a question as to whether 26 dies could have been sunk with one hub of 1787 vintage steel. It is perfectly possible, as you know, that the master hub was used to make an intaglio and then working hubs could be made in any quantity needed without risking the master hub. This was the procedure in England prior to that time.

I do not have any dictaphone equipment available so please write me whenever the spirit moves.

I am still trying to get the full data on the two existing Fugio dies but it will be fall before the parties in charge will return to unlock them. This is frustrating but not serious.

I am satisfied that the double clicking on Reverse I could have been caused by Obverse 17 as well as Obverse 21. Naturally, if an obverse die were removed and then reset it might be rotated slightly in position and thus damage the reverse in two different places.

Cordially yours,

CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

# SPILMAN ENGINEERING ASSOCIATES

1418 FLAMINGO LANE  
GARLAND, TEXAS

CONSULTING ENGINEERS  
ELECTRONICS AND AUTOMATIC CONTROL

31 May 1961

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
400 Washington Avenue  
St. Louis 2, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman:

I am enclosing the four Fugios which I had mentioned earlier and in addition the 104-FF in copper which shows extensive die breaks similiar to the photo which you sent.

You will be interested also in the die break across the 22. This die appears to have split in half as many seem to have done. I suspect that these breaks were due to a slight warping of the die face as they were quenched. This seems indicated by the excessive <sup>VEX</sup> concavity with resultant wear on the high spots which is seen on quite a few varieties.

I have been told, by the way, that the old time blacksmiths, circa 1800, would harden their wrought irons by quenching them in horse urine to take advantage of the high nitrogen content. If you are ever able to locate an original die a spectroscopic analysis of the surface metal and deeper metal would be useful to determine the composition. I am very curious about this material since most metallurgists with whom I have discussed the Fugios are skeptical that one hub of 1787 vintage steel - such as it was - could have been sunk 26 (or more) times without a great deal more chipping than is evident on the obverses!

Very truly yours,



*Do you have available either a 1/2 inch tape reader or a dictaphone which uses dictabelts? I seem never to have sufficient time to write and could spend up my correspondence with you considerably with either of these methods! EPN*

September 10, 1962

Mr. James C. Spillman  
7700 Briarwood Drive  
Little Rock, Arkansas

Dear Mr. Spillman:

I enjoyed your comments on the Fugio pieces and now that you have moved closer you can come to St. Louis and we can talk about the matter further.

Incidentally, you indicate that you do not believe screw presses would be so likely to produce clicking damage. The lever handle used to spin the screw press is spun by another person than the one putting on the planchet and if the planchet is fumbled the dies might come together. However, either type of press could have a stop so that the dies would not click and it is only when such a stop is removed or not properly adjusted that this would occur on either type of press.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

September 18, 1963

Mr. James C. Spilman  
P.O.Box 2014  
Little Rock, Arkansas

Dear Mr. Spilman:

I want to wish you the very best in undertaking the COLONIAL NEWS LETTER project. It is high time we meet and I hope you will come to see me in St.Louis when you can.

In connection with your research <sup>u</sup>form questions, I believe those will be very stimulating. Question RF-5 asks how many collectors have various varieties of the tin farthings of 1688. I want you to know that a new revised article on the tin farthings has been written by me and will be published in the A.N.S. NOTES within a few months. It describes the varieties more carefully, adds new varieties, and gives additional background to the coinage. It also contains illustrations of all the varieties. It also corrects some of the errors which I made in my original article. Whoever asked the question about it should be interested in the above.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb



September 18, 1963

Mr. James C. Spilman  
P.O. Box 2014  
Little Rock, Arkansas

Dear Mr. Spilman:

With respect to questions RF-3 and RF-6 in the COLONIAL NEWS LETTER, I know these probably come from you, as I realize how extensive your interest in Fugio material is.

RF-3. The Bank of New York developed their little pamphlet with the help of Damon Douglas and their own historian.

RF-6. I have Crosby's obverse No. 4 pieces which were electrotypes but I do not know where it is reported that these are in gold, silver, and copper. Would you tell me the source of this rumor.

For many years I have waited for Damon Douglas to complete his monograph on the Fugio material and have avoided a conflict with my desire to write on the subject. I have continually added to my information because I did not think his health or interest would enable him to finish what he started. I, therefore, am undertaking a completely new monograph, using his material, because he has specifically indicated that he has abandoned his project. I felt that you should know my plans and will look forward to any cooperation or assistance which you and others can give me. I will gladly submit portions of the material to you for your suggestions if you wish. I have been waiting for the opportunity to write this story for a long time and look forward to it with great enthusiasm.

Cordially,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

October 2, 1963

Mr. James C. Spilman  
P.O. Box 2014  
Little Rock, Arkansas

Dear Mr. Spilman:

Thank you for your very nice letter of September 27, 1963. You certainly have a fantastic collection of pieces and I congratulate you on it. You offered to give me additional information as to these items and because of the completeness of your collection I am going to take advantage of your kindness.

I would like to know the order in which each obverse and reverse was combined with other obverses and reverses if this can be readily determined from die breaks and clicking or crashing die marks. In other words, could you make a list of which dies have die breaks or cracking marks and in what combinations they are found. You might describe the die break, also. For your convenience I am enclosing a die interlock chart which I prepared to show what dies were used more than once. To the extent dies were used in single combinations only they are not covered in the chart. You will note in the chart that the reverses are on alternate lines horizontally.

I look forward to meeting you whenever your wanderings bring you to St. Louis as you are getting closer by getting to Arkansas.

My kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

EPN

January 8, 1964

Mr. James C. Spilman  
P.O. Box 2014  
Little Rock, Arkansas  
Dear Mr. Spilman:

I think your tribute to Damon Douglas and his work on the Fugios is well deserved and it was very nice for you to show that appreciation.

I am sure you will get continued satisfaction out of publishing The News Letter, although I would prefer to see The Numismatist give you a few pages and let you handle it in that manner.

Best regards for the New Year.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

February 25, 1964

Mr. James C. Spilman  
P. O. Box 2914  
Little Rock, Arkansas

Dear Jim:

I am enclosing herewith the off-center strike Fugio which was borrowed by Dick Picker. I have photographed it and will send you a picture of it as soon as the negative is developed, assuming it comes out.

Will you be kind enough to return it directly to Dick after you have studied it.

I hope your business is organized sufficiently so that you can go back to your numismatic studies.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

CERTIFIED MAIL

March 10, 1964

Mr. James C. Spilman  
P.O.Box 3672  
Little Rock, Arkansas

Dear Jim:

Your nice letter of February 27 raises a lot of interesting problems and I will comment on some of them as best I can.

I am enclosing my silver specimen of the Douglas 96-VV which you will note is convex as the A.N.S.dies are and has the die break at the sun. The obverse is from the same source as my 104 designation and the reverse shows no particular difference from FF. I will be interested in your comments after you study it.

In addition, I am enclosing a cracked sealing wax impression of the Mattatuck die, this being the best I was able to obtain after years of requests. I have never taken its picture and I have no other. You may photo it, if you wish, or I will on its return. I had hoped to get a better impression but, apparently, both of us have found it unusually difficult to secure better service from the organization.

I have no particular theory on the multiple dies of the New Haven style. A pair of actual dies might have been found. Hubs could have been made from each so that if the original dies broke in the restriking, additional dies could be made. The original pair of dies could have been used for restriking and the obverse cracked so that they could not be further used. If hubs had been found, then the letters would have to be punched into the die as I do not believe the letters of WE ARE ONE are different from the original ones. Would they have kept the letter punches? I doubt it. The letters UNITED STATES were definitely in the hub with the links and punched into the dies of all reverses.

Mr. James C. Spilman

March 10, 1964

I am sure there was no screw press in 1787 with sufficient capacity to make transfer through hubbing because the United States Mint did not develop this procedure until 1834. I do not know whether a drop press or a screw press was used for the coins and, naturally, would be interested in your rotation of reverses to see whether this gives any relevant clues. I do not think there were any hinged die pairs as that was not then used.

The only answer I am sure of is why the Fugios come so worn. It is simply that all Colonial copper coins after their collapse in value, in 1789, were revived a year or so thereafter and circulated as copper coinage along with U.S. cents and half cents until about 1830. That is why Connecticut, Vermont, Fugios, Novas, etc. are so well worn. This is another topic of study of mine because I cannot find out what they circulated for and I have an extensive file on it.

Fred Boyd had about 50 specimens of Fugios in his collection when I examined it.

I feel that the Fugios are tremendously important and that their being the first official United States coin is something which is not generally recognized from an importance point of view. They are treated like any other Colonials by most people.

Cut me in on your comparison of the interior sun dial ornaments as these seem to be punched in after the hub was used.

As to the club rays, I thought these were for emphasis and not to correct a defect.

Its fun corresponding. Let's keep it up.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

May 18, 1965

Mr. James C. Spilman

Eric P. Newman

Dear Jim:

Thank you for your nice letter of April 25.

I am very glad you feel that my suggestion is acceptable that we join for an A.N.S. monograph on the Fugio material. I am certainly in no panic to get the job accomplished, as I know that both of us are steady workers and will take enough time to do a good job. A year or two is not important as long as there is steady progress.

You ask for certain additional information at this time and I am enclosing the pictures I took of the gold restrike formerly in the Brand collection and my notes with respect to it. I am also enclosing my notes with respect to another group of restrikes which I had the opportunity of examining and there may be still others. The most important thing, as I see it, is not to devote too much time with respect to the restrikes as, in my opinion, the restrikes do not deserve all of the extensive study which could be undertaken to determine exactly how they were made. There certainly were a number of dies found. There certainly were a number of transfer hubs or master hubs. The subject of bona fide Fugios is so fascinating that I think our efforts should be toward that goal.

I presume that you are well along the way in determining the order of striking, as I think this is important. I believe we should retain the original numbering for the pieces as a new numbering would cause too much confusion.

Thank you for your nice remarks concerning my P.N.G. talk. Coin World finally adopted the advertising policy I had been pushing for several years after it was turned down by practically every numismatic organization.

I look forward to working with you on a much more detailed basis and know that there will be a source of mutual satisfaction doing a fine piece of work together.

Cordially,

EPN/atb

*Keep for yellow*

November 2, 1965

# MEMORANDUM

TO Mr. James C. Spilman

FROM Eric P. Newman

Dear Jim:

The COLONIAL NEWS LETTER stimulated me to make the following comments:

As to TN-1, I think it is very important for anyone who has a nondestructive X-ray analyser to determine the metal content of any Continental dollars he has. Walter Breen does not indicate whether the amount in excess of 95% is metallic, or nonmetallic. Some dollars may be nearer 90% tin as indicated in Watson's Chemical Essays.

Many of the early catalogues refer to the Continental Dollars as being made of tin, and I think it would be important for further analysis to be done in this field.

With respect to the letter from Benjamin Franklin to Edward Bridgeon, the entire correspondence, including that letter, was published in THE NUMISMATIST December, 1956, Vol. 69, page 1363 under the title "Poor Richard's Mottoes for Coins".

Kindest regards,

EPN/atb



February 28, 1966

Mr. James C. Spilman

Eric P. Newman

Dear Jim:

I understand that the December number of the COLONIAL NEWS LETTER is out and since I did not receive a copy, as yet, I am most anxious to see it. I understand it has some interesting things in it which challenge statements in my prior writing.

Would you be nice enough to send me a copy or two if it has not already been sent.

Kindest regards,

P.O.Box 14020  
St. Louis, Missouri 63178

EPN/atb

April 26, 1966

Mr. James C. Spilman  
4007 Medford Dr., S.E.  
Huntsville, Ala. 35802

Dear Jim:

I cannot find our copy of COLONIAL NEWSLETTER  
SERIAL NO. 8, the last before your editorship. Do you  
have an extra? May I photocopy yours?

Enclosed is \$25.00 as our contribution to the  
continuation of COLONIAL NEWSLETTER.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC  
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN  
atb

4007 Medford Drive, SE  
Huntsville, Alabama

June 13, 1966

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
P.O. Box 14020  
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Eric:

Thank you for your recent letters - and once more please overlook my long delay in reply - this is the especially hectic time of year in my business and I have had no time for other things.

First - in fairness to Mr. Sipsey - the idea of publishing the Dies by Wyon paper is all mine - he did not really want it published, but I talked him into it. So please understand this. I have no doubt that he is sincere - as you say, a great deal of effort went into this paper. His method of reasoning does not seem unusual to me because it is - I believe - standard practice in the scientific community to "rework facts to suit theories" as a method of testing new theories. If with time they fail the test - then so be it, but you do not prove or disprove until you have tested! I do not know Mr. Sipsey's profession but I am willing to guess that he was trained as a scientist or engineer.

Serial Number 8 of The Colonial Newsletter was not issued. This was the result in an error in numbering at the time I took over the job from Al Hoch.

Thanks also for your contribution to CNL. At the present time I am not accepting any additional contributions from the original contributors unless things change for the worse - so thank you - but I am returning your check.

Best regards,



James C. Spilman

October 17, 1966

## MEMORANDUM

To

FROM

ERIC P. NEWMAN

RF-5

My collection has specimens of all varieties shown on the plate included in A.N.S. MUSEUM NOTES XI (James II 1/24th Real for the American Plantations).

If someone is doing further research on this project I will be glad to give them further data.

EPN/atb

Eric:

Attached is copy of letter for your information which I have mailed to Eva Adams. It will probably have no result - there always seems to be some quirk of law that negates such things - but thought I would give it a try. I have not seen these sets but would like to. Do you think you might be able to obtain one for me ?

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of a large loop followed by a series of strokes that form the letters 'J. C. Spilman'.

J. C. Spilman

AIRMAIL

P. O. Box 4411  
Muntville, Alabama 35802

June 28, 1967

Miss Eva Adams, Director  
United States Mint  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Miss Adams:

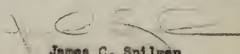
It has been brought to my attention that the publisher of Time Magazine has recently distributed as promotional material a number of sets of reproductions of "Colonial" American coins. These sets are reported to contain, among others, a reproduction of a Fugio Cent.

My purpose in writing to you, Miss Adams, is to point out that the Fugio Cent of 1787 is an officially authorized coinage of the United States and that its reproduction - however innocently accomplished - is an act of counterfeiting.

The authorization for the Fugio coinage is contained in an entry in the Journals of the Continental Congress dated April 21, 1787 with subsequent actions detailing the design dated July 6, 1787.

May I suggest, Miss Adams, that it would be appropriate for your office to initiate an investigation of this matter and to request the appropriate authority to seize and destroy these particular items.

Very truly yours,  
THE COLONIAL NEWSLETTER

  
James C. Spilman  
Editor and Publisher

October 17, 1967

## MEMORANDUM

To

FROM

ERIC P. NEWMAN

RF-6

I believe the electros showing Crosby's obverse No. 4 of the FUGIO pieces, with the rays extending into the rings, are Crosby's own specimens. They are in my collection.

EPN/atb

## MEMORANDUM

October 17, 1967

To

FROM

ERIC P. NEWMAN

RF-10

I have Mott tokens which are struck on planchets of different thicknesses. I suggest a micrometer measurement between the field to the two surfaces be made so as to determine whether there is enough difference to have a point made of it.

EPN/atb



October 17, 1967

## MEMORANDUM

To

FROM

ERIC P. NEWMAN

RF-18

The top of the obverse of the 1785 Vermontis looks as though the edge beads are double struck.

The improper angle of the plow may have been caused by the double strike.

Similarly, on the reverse, the missing A and the defective area inside of QUARTA could readily be the result of double striking.

It is therefore entirely possible that the electro was made from a regular double struck piece.

EPN/atb

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

August 21, 1968

Mr. James C. Spilman  
4007 Medford Drive, S.E.  
Huntsville, Ala. 35802

Dear Jim:

I appreciated so much receiving your study of the die interlocks of the Fugio pieces. The arrangement is most unusual and certainly is clearer than a two dimensional one. Naturally, it will take a lot of cerebation before I am able to comment on the technical phases of your work but it certainly looks like a fine step forward.

A preliminary thought is that Obverse 12 certainly did a lot of traveling and that seems hard to explain. In my opinion it was not a complete single composite hub from which other dies were produced. I believe it is more logical to assume that it was used at different times. I do not think it was used in different places.

I have to make a talk at ANS, in November, and therefore will need a little time before I go back to the Fugio study. In the meantime you may even develop some new ideas.

Over the telephone I talked to you about the Fugio material in the beginning of Taxay's book "U.S. Mint & Coinage" and if you want me to send you photocopies of it, please drop me a line.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC  
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/atb

September 24, 1968

## MEMORANDUM

TO Mr. James Spilman

FROM Eric P. Newman

Dear Jim:

A photocopy of Taxay's article on the Fugio patterns is enclosed. After you have read it I would enjoy discussing it with you.

Cordially,

EPN/atb

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

*6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri*

January 14, 1969

Mr. James G. Spilman  
4007 Medford Dr., S.E.  
Huntsville, Ala. 35802

Dear Jim:

The various points of view on the Fugio problems are most enlightening and show what can be done with team work. Someone should forthwith look him up in the Chicago directories, biographical publications, and other sources.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if all of those who have done research on the Fugios could now get together and have a seminar to discuss the facts and their theories so that sound conclusions could be reached.

This is the COLONIAL NEWSLETTER'S finest hour. Congratulations.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC  
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN  
atb

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

December 8, 1969

Mr. James C. Spilman  
4007 Medford Drive, SE  
Huntsville, Ala. 35802

Dear Jim:

I only have a couple of copies of the 1952 monograph which I wrote. I would like to keep them.

I think the reason people want the monograph is to be able to distinguish the varieties of the Fugio pieces. The best way to accomplish that is to have a new photographic print or prints made up of the various varieties and label them. Since your collection and your file and my file probably have enough to assemble such a collection of photographs, what would you think of trying to get prints together? Once we get a negative, we could run them off as customers wish to have them.

There is an additional thought and that is that it could be published by ANS.

Thank you for the Horatio N. Rust foil impression.

Please let me hear from you on the foregoing.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC  
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/atb

4007 Medford Drive, SE  
Huntsville, Alabama 35802

November 23, 1969

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Dear Eric:

Every so often someone asks if I can locate for them a copy of your CCJ/Wayte Raymond July-August 1952 monograph Varieties of The Fugio Cent. At one time I purchased a number of copies from someone and gave them away to those who were interested in this series. My supply is exhausted and I am unable to locate more copies -- do you have any tucked away someplace that I could have, or do you know where some can be purchased ?

We have obtained a specimen of the Horatio N. Rust medal and will photograph him for the next issue of CNL. A foil impression is enclosed for your files.

Best regards,



James C. Spilman

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THE COLONIAL NEWSLETTER

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Dear Patron:

Thank you for your financial contribution to The Colonial Newsletter.

We also need your active participation in the form of questions for the Research Forum, your letters, observations and comments that will be useful as Technical Notes, and your papers or articles for publication. We will especially appreciate your suggestions of articles suitable for reprints. There are many worthwhile papers on Colonial Numismatics buried in obscure journals that can be brought out from their hiding places.

So -- please write! Let us know about your interests. Your suggestions -- all kinds -- are sincerely appreciated.

JCS

Eric: I will try to reply to your letter re. Fugio plates/ ANS et al next week or so. Problems with Space Program budget has me strapped for time and I am way behind on correspondence.



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## THE COLONIAL NEWSLETTER

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P.O.Box 4411  
Huntsville, Alabama 35802

February, 1970

To our Patrons and Friends:

During October of this year THE COLONIAL NEWSLETTER will attain its tenth anniversary. Quite frankly, ye editor is astonished that it has survived - but it has, and the reasons are that many of you have unselfishly contributed your talents and your resources.

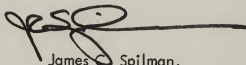
Once again it is necessary to ask for your financial support. Last year only about one-third of you responded to our request; this year we need greater support. Your response will determine - to a great extent - whether or not we attempt to implement some ambitious objectives during our next decade. Our immediate objectives are to complete a subject index of the material published in CNL during these ten years and to make available the reprints of the early issues for the CNL Workbook which we mentioned in the December 1969 issue.

Please fill out the attached coupon and make your check payable to The Colonial Newsletter. Our suggested amount for individuals is \$ 5.00; we hope that our institutional supporters will provide a greater amount. Some of you have already sent us your contributions for 1970 and we sincerely thank you; however, we would appreciate your completing the coupon and returning it to us to provide the other information requested. A stamped envelope is attached for your reply.

It has been suggested that we publish a roster of our Patrons including name, address and numismatic specialty. Please indicate your willingness for us to publish your name in this roster. Those indicating NO will be omitted from the tabulation. If a significant number so indicate, the roster will not be prepared.

Your other suggestions and comments are welcome.

Very truly yours,  
THE COLONIAL NEWSLETTER



James O. Spilman,  
Editor & Publisher



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THE COLONIAL NEWSLETTER

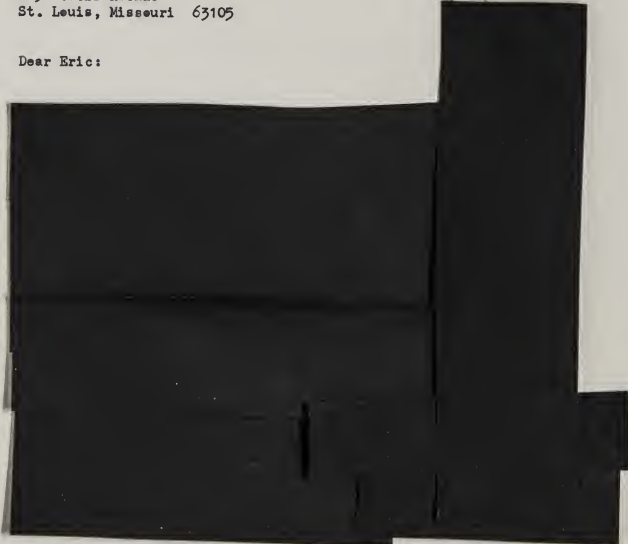
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4007 Medford Drive, SE  
Huntsville, Alabama 35802

February 21, 1970

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Dear Eric:



Before all this disruption took place I was doing some thinking about the future of CNL, and how to go about getting things pulled together into something more useful than it is today. Attached is a Xerox copy of some of my thoughts on the subject of our next ten years and what we might do with them. I have received several reactions to these thoughts, and would appreciate yours as well since I knew this is a subject very dear to your heart. It cannot be accomplished by any single individual working alone.

Which brings me back to your question on the Fugie plates. The simple

task of making up new variety plates could be readily accomplished I am certain. This is something we could probably pull together in a few weekends in the darkroom. The sort of thing that I would try to do, however, for a Fugie Databook would be to have a single page for each variety, and show - photographically - the progressive mating of dies and the development of significant die breaks and clicking marks, etc. An example, one of the better examples, would be the 7-T combination evolving through its various combinations and then recombining once again in the terminal die states as 7-T.

What is realistic for me to say that I could do now - today - under present circumstances is something that I simply cannot determine at this time. It must develop on a day by day basis and be guided by circumstance.

So - what can I say? I keep collecting data, I have literally hundreds of Fugie photos from all sorts of sources in addition to my own reference collection, and some of the same coins keep showing up in different groups of photos and in interesting sequence. Sometime I intend to get all of this data pulled together and - as I have said before - I will be pleased to work with you on it. I am certain that you understand that I cannot make a commitment on even such a simple task as pulling together a group of photographs until I can get my larger problems resolved.

Best regards,



James C. Spilman

## OUR NEXT DECADE

This issue closes the first decade of THE COLONIAL NEWSLETTER. Our publication has managed to survive in spite of adversity and during these ten years has produced some pages of letters, articles, photographs and concepts comprising a unique collection of modern writings on Colonial American Numismatics. Many of these have been outstanding in their numismatic content; many have been controversial - such as those by the late Everett T. Sipsey which were designed for the specific purpose of "... getting people to think, and ... to help open minds closed by numismatic tradition." The cooperation and financial assistance of all of our Patrons during these ten years is sincerely appreciated by the editor. Now, let's think about the future.

Our objectives for the next decade are the following:

1. The continuation of THE COLONIAL NEWSLETTER and our Informal Association of Patrons.
2. Production of THE ANNOTATED COLONIAL NEWSLETTER. This will consist of an indexed loose-leaf bound version of all CNLs with update and cross reference data printed on the left hand (currently blank) pages. This will be the second phase of a program consisting initially of a CNL Workbook without the printed annotations.
3. Production of a set of CNL Databooks by series, i.e. Connecticut, New Jersey Coppers, Massachusetts Silver and Copper, Fugios, etc. etc. These will contain collected classic works, new manuscripts, and current photographic and descriptive data on varieties and rarity, and will be designed for periodic updating via inserts.

This is an ambitious program and will probably require the full ten years for implementation. Its completion will depend entirely on our Patron's cooperation and financial assistance. If, in fact - the past IS prologue, then - it will be successful. Additional data on these objectives and concepts will

be presented in future issues. Please let us know your thoughts and suggestions on these ideas.

JCS

May 5, 1970

## MEMORANDUM

TO Mr. James C. Spilman

FROM Eric P. Newman

RF-31

The location of the Mint site for the Connecticut coppers was on the property on Water Street then owned by Broome and Platt.

I have found no evidence that there was any coinage at Morris Cove, or West Haven, or Westville, and believe these assertions are without foundation. Although a few dies were transferred back and forth between Machins Mills, in Newburgh, and the New Haven Mint, Connecticut coinage as such did not take place in Machins Mills.

Now that Ned Barnsley has polished to virtual perfection the die varieties of the Connecticut coinage, I am planning to write an article on some new Connecticut Mint data which I have assembled.

EPN/atb

May 5, 1970

## MEMORANDUM

To Mr. James C. Spilman

FROM Eric P. Newman

RF-32

The New Haven dies for the Fugio cent were used to strike pieces in silver, copper and a yellowish copper. The yellowish copper is sometimes referred to as brass. I believe that is where the brass relationship arises with respect to those dies.

EPN/atb

May 5, 1970

# MEMORANDUM

TO Mr. James C. Spilman

FROM Eric P. Newman

RF-34

In the Guide to Numismatic Terms, published by the ANA Numismatic Terms Standardization Committee, the definition of "Bungtown", which I recently wrote, is as follows:

"A humorous American name originally applied to imitations of British halfpence which were minted and circulated in America during the 1784-89 period, some bearing fictitious dates. The name continued to be used in New England during the first half of the nineteenth century, referring to any copper coin of depreciated or insignificant value."

The origin of the term was the topic of an address I gave before the American Numismatic Society on July 29, 1969 and will be included in a monograph on that subject. I am working on that monograph now.

EPN/atb

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

July 27, 1971

Mr. James C. Spilman  
P.O. Box 4411  
Huntsville, Alabama 35802

Dear Jim:

Your Fugio data is great and I congratulate you on its concise presentation and interesting notations. It would now be wonderful if you had pictures published of every obverse and reverse die.

Incidentally, I would like very much to have a copy of CN for my separate Fugio file.

The letter from Eva Adams misses the point you were making when you wrote her. We were not Colonial in 1787.

In the Colonial News Letter, just received, are some pages from a publication which I do not offhand recognize. Would you be nice enough to tell me what that publication is.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC  
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/atb

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

August 4, 1971

Mr. James C. Spilman  
P.O.Box 4411  
Huntsville, Alabama 35802

Dear Jim:

Thank you for taking care of my requests.

[REDACTED]

With respect to one of the CNL readers, he perhaps has 5-YY confused with 5-HH. When the piece was discovered, I remember it being called to my attention, but I don't remember assigning any designation to it. Maybe it is just poor handwriting that caused the mixup. At least I am sure you will tell him that 5-HH is probably the one he is referring to.

In going over my copies of CNL, I find I am missing Serial No. 23 and if you have an extra copy I would appreciate it. I am cataloguing my library and noticed this deficiency.

I glanced in Prime and noticed the pages you were publishing. I could not believe that I had blocked that book out of my mind in trying to remember the source of your material. I think I just have a personal prejudice against Prime because of his general inaccuracies.

Next week I am going to the ANA convention and hope to discuss several numismatic problems at that time. Our principal work is in authentication, for the moment.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC  
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/atb



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THE COLONIAL NEWSLETTER

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P.O.Box 4411  
Huntsville, Alabama 35802

July 31, 1971

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis, Missouri 63105


Dear Eric:

Thank you for your letter of July 27 and your kind words regarding my Fugio data in the current issue. Someday, somehow, I certainly hope that I will be able to find the time to complete the new photographs of all the Fugio dies -- for the ANS monograph that you suggested several years ago as well as CNL -- I keep getting sidetracked by other things that seem more important when they come up.

The group of pages in the current issue that you asked about are from Chapter VI - "Coin in America" - from Prime's Coins, Medals and Seals. The first group of these pages were included in the January 1971 issue of CNL (Serial No. 30) and the remaining ones will be included in the next several issues. If by chance you did not receive your copy of S/N 30 let me know and I will send you another.

The extra copy of the current issue that you requested is in the mail under separate cover.

Would you please advise me whether you have assigned the designator "YY" to any Fugio die. I received a letter from a CNL Patron advising me that I had failed to include 5-YY in the rarity table !!!



Best regards,

  
J.C. Spilman

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

March 29, 1972

Mr. James C. Spilman  
P.O.Box 4411  
Huntsville, Alabama 35802

Dear Jim:

I have your letter of March 26, 1972 asking for a copy of the program I gave in 1968 to the American Numismatic Society on British Halfpence and Bungtowns in America.

Our house is being remodeled right now and this material is buried where I cannot get to it for the moment.

I certainly intend to do a thorough monograph on this subject and have worked on it off and on. It is so complex that I never am satisfied with what I have done. A couple of people have read the talk I gave with the understanding that no copy would be made and I will certainly do that for you.

Are you interested in working on the matter or are you trying to tie it in to some other related subject? It would intrigue me to know why you are anxious to read it.

Let me hear from you on this point.

Cordially,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC  
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/atb

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THE COLONIAL NEWSLETTER

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P.O.Box 4411  
Huntsville, Alabama 35802

March 26, 1972

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Dear Eric:

Could you send me a transcript, or copy, or whatever you might have available of the material you presented at the November 9, 1968 ANS meeting in New York on "The Use of British Halfpence and Bungtowns in Early America". This would be for my personal study.

I recall that you told me sometime ago that you were doing additional work on a monograph on this subject but since I have not seen or heard of its publication I thought that perhaps I had missed hearing of it or that you are still working on it. In any event Eric, I would very much appreciate a copy of the material you presented in 1968.

Best regards,



James C. Spilman

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

April 20, 1972

Mr. James C. Spilman  
P. O. Box 4411  
Huntsville, Ala. 35802

Dear Jim:

As I promised, I have located and I enclose a copy of my manuscript on halfpence in America. There are some additions which I made by subsequent interlineation and some I have to insert in due course. I hope it will serve your purpose as it is.

The big shock is that you and others asked for copies and then the ANA asked me to give a paper at the Educational Forum, in New Orleans, in August. I told them I would give a revised version of this as it has never been published and was only heard by a few in New York in 1968. Do you think it interesting enough?

Please make comments, suggestions, challenges, clarifications, etc. Please do not make a copy or let anyone else do it. This is 25 years of work off and on, mostly off. Please return it at your leisure.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC  
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/ash  
atb

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

December 19, 1972

Mr. James G. Spilman  
P. O. Box 4411  
Huntsville, Ala. 35802

Dear Jim:

In your last COLONIAL NEWS LETTER you asked for information about the various places at which Connecticut coppers were struck.

I worked on this problem many, many years ago and have come to the conclusion that Bushnell's comments are completely fictitious and that there was only one place of striking and that was on Water Street.

I have punches which are purportedly those used for the ornaments on Connecticut coinage.

I also have a quantity of Connecticut information on the coinage which has never been published, some of which involves the number of Connecticut coins produced, the reasons for the change in the partnership participation, etc.

I would very much like to see this material published and would gladly share the writing of it. Who is working on this subject currently? Ned Barnsley, you, Lindesmith, etc?

Best wishes for the holidays.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC  
EDUCATION SOCIETY

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THE COLONIAL NEWSLETTER

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P.O.Box 4411  
Huntsville, Alabama 35802

January 20, 1973

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Dear Eric:

Thank you very much for your letter of December 19, 1972 and also for your financial contribution to CNL.

I am continuing to study your "Halfpence in America" paper that you presented to ANS a few years ago. In this regard I have come across an interesting article of which you may not be aware -- it is "A Century of Coining" published in The Engineer (London) in six parts in Vol 11, 1861. The page numbers for these six parts are 160, 201, 246, 262, 295 and 310. As this is a rather unusual journal to contain a numismatic article, I thought you might not be aware of it. There are several comments in the article that bear on the subject matter in your Halfpence paper.

On page 7, para. 2 of your Halfpence you are discussing the 1771 law and its lack of enforcement. The Engineer article states: "In 1772 the prosecutions for the crime had become so numerous, and entailed so much expense, that an extra allowance of funds was granted for the purpose of conducting them." There are also references to the counterfeit coppers being imported into England but the source is not mentioned - I suppose the reader in 1861 was well aware of the source - I wonder if the source was Ireland. Also - I am surprised that there is no mention of the "evasions" and I certainly would have expected some mention of them based on your comments regarding the extent of their manufacture.

I trust that these observations will be of interest and helpful to you in your continuing work on this subject. I came across this article during a search I was conducting in the Army Redstone Library for data on the technology associated with diesinking in the late 1700 era.

During this library search I located an article in the "Franklin Journal" describing what I call the Eckfeldt Process for die hardening. A transcript of this article is attached -- Mr. K. is probably William Kneass who became chief engraver of the U.S.Mint in 1824 on the recommendation of Eckfeldt. This article indicates a much more sophisticated technology existed (in 1795) in die making than has been generally supposed by most modern writers. For example see Taxay "The U.S. Mint and Coinage" page 83 para. 3. We can assume that some die sections were cut and tests made to determine the shape of the hardened area. This article also provides the proof, next to last paragraph, that American technology in diesinking was being exported to England prior, perhaps, to 1800! Interesting. I have not located any subsequent writing in The Franklin Journal as anticipated in the last paragraph, but my search continues.

Now, back to your letter of December 19, 1972. You asked about the Connecticut mintsite information. By way of background, a cooperative study on this subject started quite a few years ago between several CNL Patrons, including myself. In all - approximately ten CNL Patrons have made significant contributions of data and information and I continue to receive letters from time to time on the subject. The RF-31 question was published in my attempt to pull many loose ends together; these loose ends result from the fact that three of the major participants have died in recent years. A subsequent question RF-38 "A Rhode Island Mint?" (CNL page 369) has come out of this study.

As a result of circumstance the task of pulling all the data together into a reasonable package is now mine alone, and I think I know how Crosby felt. I have received a recent input from Lindesmith - Ned Barnsley's interests seem to be strictly with the coinage itself, varieties, die breaks, etc & etc. and I have received nothing from him so far as the mintsite question is concerned.

I have not yet decided how to format this presentation but I anticipate that I shall present a summary of each contributor's data ( in which there are numerous conflicts ) and then some sort of concluding analysis of my own. I may preface the whole thing with a summary of data presented in Crosby and other publications of that era, and then establish the pros and cons that more recent investigations have uncovered. I do not anticipate any firm final conclusions because these cannot be made until significant additional research is conducted to identify and separate the official operations from the clandestine operations of the parties involved. These "connections" which grew out of their privateering enterprises during the hostilities with England are proving extremely difficult to document and verify. At best it will be a "state-of-art" report.


If you desire to join in I would be very pleased to receive your input Erie, and I assure that your contribution will not be mixed or lose its identity of origin with yourself.

You mention some Connecticut ornament punches. If you have a bar of lead handy I would like to see what the impressions look like. I seem to recall that Dick Picker located some punches a number of years ago but the conclusion was that they were not for use on dies. My general conclusion to date on letter and ornament punches is that we have considerably underestimated the capabilities and technology existing in the 1780-1790 era. Are you, for example, familiar with the use of chilled cast iron punches for hot forging?

I agree that there was only one mint in the New Haven area, and it was the Water Street mint, but I do not agree that Bushnell's comments are fictitious, I think that is the wrong word, he was - I believe - caught in an error, a misunderstanding, of the name of the location, and that error has caused all sorts of grief to later researchers.

Another subject - Machin's Mill - in your studies I trust that you have researched the personal papers of Machin. Is there any positive data to indicate that his Mills actually produced ANY coinage output (even the 1000 pounds as per Crosby) ? There is a Research Forum question coming up in CNL on this in a future issue. There seems to be something wrong with the entire numismatic history of this operation.

Best regards,  
J.C.Spilman





ON HARDENING STEEL DIES

for The Franklin Journal

Mr. Editor, - I avail myself of the opportunity you offer, to record in your useful repository, the observations made by ingenious practical mechanics, in the prosecution of their respective arts. It will no doubt comport with your views, to give to merit its just due, by stating the origin of processes already known, as well as to make the knowledge of them, more extensive.

The management of steel for nice purposes in the arts, is of vast importance, and requires considerable practical skill; it has consequently been made the subject of numerous experiments, which within the course of a few years have resulted in the discovery of many improvements. The general method of hardening this metal, is to heat it red hot, and then to plunge it into cold water, and sometimes into mercury, in order to reduce its temperature as quickly as possible; to effect this cooling with the requisite rapidity, the article when plunged, is moved about, in order to expose it to new surfaces of the cold fluid. This method answers in general, with small or thin pieces of steel, but not when the mass is considerable; in this case, the article frequently breaks in the operation, or is hardened at the edges only; from this cause much inconvenience, and great loss, have frequently resulted to those interested in the hardening of steel dies, for striking medals, coins, &c. This has been frequently experienced in the mint of the United States; the dies after being completely finished, excepting the process of hardening, were very often destroyed in this attempt; or if they passed safely through this ordeal, were found to be incapable of sustaining the severe and repeated blows to which they, in their use, were subjected. An intimate friend of the writer, it is believed, was the first person who succeeded in obviating these difficulties so completely, that not the slightest danger is now apprehended from the process.

Mr. Adam Eckfeldt, the present chief coiner in the mint, a very ingenious practical mechanic, whose original profession was that of a smith, was employed in the infant state of the establishment, to manage this department. Aware that the cause of the frequent failures in the process alluded to, was the sudden contraction of the steel on the outside, whilst the inside was in a heated and expanded state, causing the outer hardened and brittle coat of steel to crack or burst, he adopted the following expedient. He caused a vessel holding 200 gallons of water, to be placed in the upper part of the building, at the height of 40 feet above the room in which the dies were hardened; from this vessel, the water was conducted down through a pipe of one inch and a quarter in diameter, with a cock at the bottom, and nozzles of different sizes, to regulate the diameter of the jet of water. Under one of these was placed the heated die, the water being directed on the centre of the upper surface. The first experiment was tried in the year 1795, and the same mode has been ever since pursued, without a single instance of failure.

By this process the die is hardened in such a way, as best to sustain the pressure to which it is to be subjected, and the middle of the face, which by the former process was apt to remain soft, now becomes the hardest part. The hardened part of the die so managed, were it to be separated, would be found to be in the form of a segment of a sphere, resting in the lower soft part, as in a dish; the hardness of course gradually decreasing as you descend toward the foot. Dies thus hardened, preserve their forms until they are fairly worn out.

I am aware that the above mode is now in frequent use, as Mr. Eckfeldt never wished to keep it secret; a gentleman of the mint, communicated the process to a friend in Birmingham, England, where, it is believed, it was not previously known.

Should you think the above information worth publishing, you will probably receive some other communications, containing improvements effected by the same gentleman.

Yours very respectfully,

K.



ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

January 26, 1973

Mr. J. C. Spilman  
P. O. Box 4411  
Huntsville, Alabama 35802

Dear Jim:

The excitement which you have generated in citing the article in THE ENGINEER is great. I am looking forward to it with the greatest of enthusiasm and Peter Gaspar is looking forward to it for his research in early 19th century coin procedure. We are going to have a copy made and perhaps it should even be published. I am very grateful for your pointing it out.

How would you like me to send you a couple of my ornament punches for study?

As to Machin's Mills, I have not researched the personal papers of Thomas Machin. I believe they were burned up in the fire of the New York State Library. Many of his papers are published and that is where I read them. His mills did produce coins because there are some descriptions of what was going on there. I have all this data assembled and all I need is time to work on it. You are right that the numismatic history of the operation needs revision and that is what I was trying to do.

Thank you for asking me to put in new Connecticut material. I wish we could get together and let me show you what I have.

My very kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC  
EDUCATION SOCIETY

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

March 30, 1973

Mr. James Spilman  
The Colonial Newsletter  
P. O. Box 4411  
Huntsville, Ala. 35802

Dear Jim:

I received the article from The Engineer and it was fascinating reading. Thank you, very much, for calling it to my attention.

I would like an extra copy of Vol. 12, No. 1 of COLONIAL NEWSLETTER because it has so much interesting material and favorite subjects of mine.

I agree with your Mutton Head diagnosis and hope that Ned will. I wonder whether the head was a punch, or whether it was cut into the die directly.

I was also pleased to learn that my 1785 Connecticut 4(2)-F(4), the obverse of which you illustrated from a picture in the files of the American Numismatic Society, is still sort of unique. I would gladly have lent you the coin but the picture from ANS was taken for me.

I was intrigued by your Fugio structure but would have preferred that it be laid out entirely on a flat surface with your levels as arms instead of connecting the levels.

I am sending, under separate cover, two sealing wax impressions of the Mattatuck Fugio sun dial die. The one impression is cracked, but clear. The other impression has good border dentils but the center is miserable.

I am also sending, under separate cover, nine ornament punches for the Connecticut cents. Apparently they were buffed off slightly at the front end. I hope you will study them and give me your opinion with respect to them. I am also sending a lead impression of a negative made with the punches. This will help you in studying the matter.

I have just examined a Fugio 11-X with a very heavy die clashing on the sun dial side. I presume you are aware of this state of the die.

Have a great time in working on the items sent and return them after you have had a full opportunity to study them.

My kindest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC  
EDUCATION SOCIETY

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

April 18, 1973

Dear Jim:

Thank you for your April 11, 1973 letter with respect to the mysteries we are probing.

Ted Craige, some years before he passed away, had the punches and he could have been the one to do testing on the punches. I have no spectograms or other analyses of the material ~~was~~ in the punches. The fact that they seem to be made up out of odds and ends of metal leftovers such as rasps or files seems to me to be natural. Certainly no one made these to fool anyone. The only thing that can make them non-numismatic is that they were made up in order to make some type molds, but they are a strange shape for that. As I told you I believe they ~~are~~ have been ground off a little on the end and I believe this was long before I got them. I have had them for at least 25 years and have no recollection where I got them. I paid \$25 for them. I was told that Crosby had them, but that is meaningless.

circulation  
With respect to Voce Populi issues there is no reference to them in any American newspaper or other publication so far as I know. They have never been found in any American hoard and I have examined and studied the inventories of a number of hoards. What appeared in the Chapman catalogues was after the dealers undertook to sell what they imported from England for collectors. There is no such thing as a Pennsylvania copper - that is just a mistaken impression from Crosby.

As to the word "rap", that was used at least three times in Dean Swift! in his tirade against Woods coinage and had nothing to do with Voce Populi because they were not even made as yet. Rap meant anything of little value or not worth a rap. That Swiss denomination is a far cry from the Swiss franc being the Rock of Gibraltar. Thus we have a wee disagreement as to the Voce Populi matter.

I look forward to your findings and thank you for commenting on the other matters. That is the only way to keep each other on our toes.

In my research I do not recall having heard of Stephen Ford, but I realize that there were several die sinkers and not just Atlee and ~~the~~ Buell (or Buells)

We just must meet and have a real pow wow. When do you think you can come to St. Louis, stay at our house and meet one of your admirers.

My secretary just retired after 23 years with me. I am the typist as is obvious.

Cordially,

James Spillman

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THE COLONIAL NEWSLETTER

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P.O.Box 4411  
Huntsville, Alabama 35802

April 11, 1973

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis, Mo. 63105

Dear Eric:

The impressions of the Mattatuck "New Haven" die have arrived together with the set of punches. I shall advise you of my opinions regarding them as soon as I conduct a few comparisons photo-optically with the coinage. I note that these show evidence of metallurgical testing and I trust that you have spectrograms of their composition. At least two of them appear to be fabricated from the shanks of metal cutting files and one from the shank of a wood rasp.

After all of our efforts to obtain impressions of the Mattatuck Die I discovered while I was in New York a few weeks ago that ANS has both a cast and clay impression in their Fugio cabinet which are labeled "Mattatuck Die". So, I have requested photographs and will send you a copy of their impression as soon as I receive them.

I now have another observation regarding your "Halfpence in America" research regarding the use of "bungtown" relative to coinage circulating - or subsequently "collected" in America. I looked through your paper rather hurriedly to see if you had touched on the VOCE POPULI issues and did not locate anything, but I may have missed it. As you are aware the "Pennsylvania" coppers you have discussed have a very fuzzy history in the various sale catalogues so far as their identity is concerned -- but what about the VOCE POPULI? These are listed in various catalogues both as Pennsylvania coppers and as Bungtowns and would certainly tie in very strongly with the use of "rap" halfpence (meaning Irish) as that phrase was used circa 1785. These references appear in the Clay, Parmelee, Bushnell, Davis, Stickney & Jenks sales, just to cite a few, and there seems to be no question whatsoever here that the specimens called bungtowns and Pennsylvania coppers and counterfeit halfpence are all in reference to the VOCE POPULI.

Finally Eric, I wonder whether in your studies and research on the early mints and coinages you have ever encountered a cohort of the incredible Abel Buell, by the name of Stephen Ford?

Best regards,

  
J.C. Spilman

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

June 7, 1973

Mr. James C. Spilman  
P. O. Box 4411  
Huntsville, Alabama 35802

Dear Jim:

You asked for additional copies of my letter of April 18, 1973 and it is enclosed herewith.

I am particularly interested in your comment that you believe that metal tests will establish the age of the metal stock from which the punches are made. I have no knowledge of any such test being successful and was wondering if you could give me the basis for those conclusions.

Thank you for your opinion on the punches.

Someone will probably write you asking to enlarge the Colonial Newsletter to cover Colonial paper money and you can give that your consideration.

This Fall I will send you the Connecticut piece for photography.

My kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN:jah

Encl.

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THE COLONIAL NEWSLETTER

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P.O.Box 4411  
Huntsville, Alabama 35802

May 26, 1973

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Dear Eric:

I am returning the nine punches and two impressions of the "Mattatuck Die". Thank you so much for the opportunity of examining them. Also the lead impression.

The sealing wax impressions were not of much help - the specific areas that I needed to see are very poor on each of them and I am going to have to wait until I receive the photographs from ANS before I can make the determinations that I want.

I have concluded that the punches are not coinage punches but are instead bookbinders punches for impressing gold ornaments on leather bindings. My guess is that they are - at most - some fifty years old; however, I believe that tests would readily establish the age of the metal stock from which the majority are made.

In your letter of March 30, 1973 you mentioned that the 1785 Connecticut Obverse 4.2 photograph that I used in the January 1973 issue of CNL was of a specimen in your collection. This is a surprise to both Ned and me because both of us were under the impression that this specimen was in the ANS collection and we used the ANS photograph with that thought in mind. I would certainly have liked to have had a better photograph of it but the backlog at ANS is so great - at present more than 90 days for new negatives - that we did not even consider asking that one be made, had we done so we would have discovered our mistake. If you would like to have a better photograph I would be happy to make one for you if you will send me the specimen. I have developed a modified bright field illumination technique that I believe is better than any other for photographing copper specimens.

I seem to have misplaced my copy of your most recent letter Eric. Do you have a carbon copy that you could send me? I do recall your invitation to visit with you and certainly hope that I shall be able to accept your offer one of these days, but I need to review your other comments before I can comment on them. I must have misfiled it someplace, and it will turn up someday, but I would rather not wait that long, so I will appreciate a carbon.

Best regards,



James C. Spilman

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

June 25, 1973

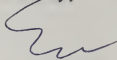
Mr. James Spilman  
P. O. Box 4411  
Huntsville, Alabama 35802

Dear Jim:

RF 52 (Apr. 1973) Colonial Newsletter

I wrote up this matter in the NSM in January, 1960 p. 6 but had not then located the data in the English papers. Enclosed is that data. It shows Birmingham was the source. The person who wrote it must have known what he was talking about as he was correcting others.

Sincerely,



ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN:jah

Encls.

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

January 9, 1974

Mr. J. C. Spilman  
The Colonial Newsletter  
P. O. Box 4411  
Huntsville, Alabama 35802

Dear Jim:

Re: Auctori Plebis

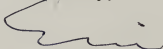
Your 12/30/73 letter as to the uniface Auctori Plebis is at hand. This piece is an evasion halfpence made in England about the same time as the variety dated 1787 with the *Indep et Liber* reverse. This uniface variety is not listed in the Atkins descriptions of evasions, although it has an obverse facing right with the same legend as described in #8. Your patron's item is illustrated in an article by Howard Kurth in the Numismatic Review, Vol. 1, No. 2, p. 54.

In my collection I have two different Auctori Plebis obverses with blank reverse (one is like yours). I also have two Auctori Plebis obverses with the Hispaniola reverse (only one is listed in Atkins). It is up to you as to whether publication is of interest. They are American inspired but were never used here. Crosby and Kurth say about all there is to know, but your patron might have other data. Die varieties of evasions are endless but this may have more appeal because its sister coin is American inspired. All pieces are poorly struck.

I have retained your photo as it is a copy, but will return it if you wish.

Best wishes for 1974 when we should meet somehow.

Cordially,



Eric P. Newman

EPN:jah



Dear Jim:

file Sprueman  
Re: South Carolina coinage  
~~RF-74~~

I ~~include the two~~  
a photo of  
I have the picture of the design of the  
proposed South Carolina coinage. ~~RF-74~~  
Would you like to publish it?

B  
~~RF-74~~

Dear Jim:

I presume you didn't publish my answer  
on Crosby as yet. I can add to it as to an error  
~~erroneous plate~~ ~~in the original~~ in one of the  
original plates. Please advise.

Dear Jim:

Re: RF 4X

<sup>am inclined to question</sup>  
I ~~am inclined to question~~ both answers. They assume the  
pieces were counterfeit, not base. Why would redemption be  
required if they were counterfeit? I think they were private tokens of which

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

May 22, 1974

Mr. James C. Spilman  
The Colonial Newsletter  
P. O. Box 4411  
Huntsville, Alabama 35802

Dear Jim:

The Crosby foreword which I wrote for the reprint is primarily bibliographical because that was something new. Would you be nice enough to read it and quickly make any suggestions for improvement.

I believe I have solved most of the problems concerning the publication by virtue of finding 1869 and 1870 references in AJN by studying the 1878 edition, etc.

I am enclosing a copy for you to forward to Ned Barnsley and would appreciate if you would do so as I do not have his present address. I would be grateful for his prompt commentary.

The one thing that bothers me is that I do not wish to pre-empt what Ned or you or others might be writing. I was given a short deadline and, thanks to your help and the queries raised in our correspondence by you and others, I have consolidated my thinking. Please be frank if I am stepping on anyone's toes.

Writing this foreword was unusually pleasant and challenging for me as I started last Friday night and worked straight through to Sunday night without stopping.

I am combing for errors and hope both you and Ned will also.

Cordially,

Eric P. Newman

EPN:jah

Encl.

cc: Mr. Ned Barnsley

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

*file*

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri.

July 18, 1974

Mr. James C. Spilman  
The Colonial Newsletter  
P. O. Box 4411  
Huntsville, Alabama 35802

Dear Jim:

I received your letter today after mailing one to you.

I recognize the strong position you are taking that the photographs are from foil impressions. I have seen these ragged edges; nevertheless, these could be plaster copies which have been shaved down. They may be too good to be foil copies. I do not think they were set in a recessed holder. Perhaps they were taken individually, then printed in a positive, the positives assembled and rephotographed. The numbering labels were put on at first, but were so poor that perhaps the bond for the paste-up was printed with the numbers first. In any event, I left the matter open in the Foreword I wrote.

You raised the point that Chaplain may have been fired because of the poor plates. I do not agree. Plate I is superb. In Plates II, III and IV they may have thought the label paper was the same color as the background paper, but the camera showed them it was not. In addition, I do not believe the printer would do the photographic plate making.

You raise a very interesting point about the American Museum of History Library. I will find out if the copy they retain is still in wrappers or is bound.

You raised the point as to whether the proper terminology is wrappers or covers for the parts. Whatever it is is not sewn together with the pages. It merely is pasted onto the spine. There is no mailing address on it and the entire part must have been in an envelope. It was intended that the jacket be destroyed when the book was bound. Whether it was a wrapper or a cover is a technical decision, but my feeling is that wrapper is correct because it is to be torn off. A cover usually is not intended to be torn off.

I feel badly if Ned thinks I have usurped some of his research. As I wrote both of you, I was worried about using the material which you furnished me in a manner which might be subject to criticism. I fed you independent data on the subject which neither he nor you had and vice versa. This was to help whatever project you were planning. I had been asked before to do introductions to Hoch's reprints. When the opportunity to do the Crosby Foreword came along, I felt I should do it. It was mere coincidence that I received

Mr. James C. Spilman  
July 18, 1974  
Page 2 -

a telephone call and learned that a reprint of Crosby was scheduled. I agree with you that when Ned edited on two separate occasions what I had written that he was without objection to my action.

I am enclosing a photocopy of Plate IV before it was corrected. If you want to include the detail in C & L as to its correction, please feel free to do so. The corrections are noted on the enclosed slip.

I am delighted to work with you, Ned or anyone; however, there is always additional detail which can be worked into written data. Each one has to decide for himself how much detail a reader can digest and how important minutia may be. I have helped with many articles written by others and have received help from many. We all do this for enjoyment and I certainly will appreciate any suggestions you have to smooth any ruffled feathers which might have arisen out of the Crosby matter.

Cordially,

Eric P. Newman

EPN:jah

Encl.

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

September 19, 1974

Mr. James C. Spilman  
P. O. Box 4411  
Huntsville, Alabama 35802

Dear Jim:

I hope the enclosed item relating to how plates are made will shock you as it did me. It was found by serendipity.

I am also enclosing the South Carolina pictures which were found in the Matthew Boulton correspondence in the Birmingham assay office, Birmingham, England. I was unable to ascertain the letter in which these were enclosed, whether it was June 4, 1788, June 24, 1788 or July 4, 1788. They were found loose.

I am also enclosing a few other items which were in my file and which you probably already have. The other items in my file I know you have.

Kindest regards,

Eric P. Newman

EPN:jah

Encls.

June 30, 1975

Mr. James C. Spilman  
P. O. Box 4411  
Huntsville, Alabama 35802

Dear Jim:

A little 1893 newspaper tidbit for your file. I just found it in a book I received.

I have a duplicate of the A.J.N. for July, 1875 with the Crosby excerpt on the Fugio coinage and the announcement on the wrapper of the completion of Crosby's work. Do you collect this sort of thing? If so, I'll send it.

My best,

Eric P. Newman

EPN:jah

*From the desk of*

*ERIC P. NEWMAN*

5-24-76

Hi Eric: Good to hear from you again. I have ordered a copy of the ANS "Studies on Money in Early America" for the CNL library. I really regret that I was unable to contribute Fugate material to this work, but I know now that my decision was the correct one .... personal and business problems have been rather severe and that additional tasks would have literally put me "six feet under"! I was, at least, able to provide Ken Brescett with a couple of Vermont photos.

My sincere thanks for your contribution to CNLF. A receipt will be on its way just as soon as I receive them from the printer.

Jim

Hello —

I'm working too hard on getting 2 books out this spring

Regards.

RECEIVED

MAY 19 1976

J. C. SPILMAN

From the desk of  
ERIC P. NEWMAN

Best regards,

Jim

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

July 19, 1977

Mr. James Spilman  
P. O. Box 4411  
Huntsville, AL 35802

Dear Jim:

I am really proud of your Connecticut die link chart. You have produced an amazing item to study and work with. I have been in China and thus I didn't get to reading your work until the "revision" came.

Speaking of minor errors in writing, I call attention to TN57A from Walter Breen criticizing a minor mistake of mine. I believe I should reply and show him to be wrong also, if Ray Williamson hasn't already done it. Ray told me he would. If he has not by now, please advise me and I'll nit pick at Walter. Incidentally, Walter wrote a long review of the Halfpence article for other publications and thoroughly praised it. He must have run out of barbs for the moment and had to find something.

Let me hear from you on the latter item.

Kindest regards,

Eric P. Newman

jah



October 31, 1978

Mr. Jim Spilman

Dear Jim:

I enclose for CNL a matter which may be of interest. Please feel free to edit it and make suggestions as I will be delighted to revise it after you do so.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

jah

*From the desk of*  
*ERIC P. NEWMAN*

October 31, 1978

Mr. Jim Spilman

Dear Jim:

As to the English Half Pence matter, I have never heard from Ned and I am working up a response myself. I will send it shortly.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

jah

*From the desk of*

*ERIC P. NEWMAN*

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

November 9, 1978

Mr. James C. Spilman  
P. O. Box 4411  
Huntsville, AL 35802

Dear Jim:

In answer to your inquiry of November 6, 1978, I find that I have a pair of uniface Fugios in white metal supposedly made by Crosby, and my envelope shows that they are 106 and GG. The 102 might have been an older numbering, but the item is identical to the picture of mine which you sent me. These are supposed to have been made by Sylvester Crosby and described in the 1902 AJN. They are still very bright and I acquired them in 1957.

I also have 101-AA in pot metal or pewter, but this is a solid piece weighing 173½ grains and has a specific gravity of 9.3. Then I have three copper electro shells, one of 106 and two of GG, having been made apparently by Crosby. Two are reverses and one is an obverse. One of the reverses is a negative similar to a die.

Other than the foregoing I have the uniface hub impression of DD which you know about. Tell me what you want and I will either give you the information or send them to you.

The uniface items and the shells came from the Brand collection through Richard Picker.

I am pleased to be able to help you.

Kindest regards,

Eric P. Newman

jah

**SPEED LETTER** ®

FROM

Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis, Mo. 63105

TO

James C. Spilman/CNL  
P.O. Box 4411  
Huntsville, Alabama 35802

SUBJECT

— NO. 9 &amp; 10 FOLD

MESSAGE

DATE

November 6 1973

Dear Eric:

Many thanks for the CNL input regarding Barnsley's G-3A (page 609) and TN-76 (page 628ff). I shall use the material exactly as you have submitted it.

Now - here is one for you. You will recall a number of years ago you sent me a photo of Fugio 102. To jog your memory, please see the attached Polaroid copy of the actual photo. It appears to be an impression in lead or some such, and I assumed that it was uniface. Another similar impression appeared in the recent Kagin Auction (Lot 1776, GENA Sept. 29-30, 1973). A xerox copy of the lot description is attached. As you probably are aware, there are quite a few ANS negatives showing 102, but none of them that I am aware of are uniface specimens similar to these two.

It is clearly evident that these two are different impressions as the border is much wider on the Kagin piece. Do you happen to know the whereabouts of the specimen in your photograph? It might be helpful to compare these two things side by side - I presently have the Kagin piece in hand.

Best regards,

— NO. 9 FOLD

— NO. 10 FOLD

JCSpilman

SIGNED

REPLY

DATE

19

— NO. 9 &amp; 10 FOLD

SIGNED

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

October 6, 1978

Mr. James C. Spilman  
The Colonial Newsletter Foundation, Inc.  
P. O. Box 4411  
Huntsville, AL 35802

Dear Jim:

I am turning over your letter to my good friend, Peter Gaspar, a professor of chemistry at Washington University. He will reply.

At the present time we are working on a matter involving precision dental casting of Colonial coins which are devastatingly dangerous. They came up in the Bowers and Ruddy sale of 1978 and were withdrawn before sale.

I am enclosing a letter to Ray Williamson as you suggested.

Please visit me whenever you are in St. Louis or in this area, or if you pass through this area.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

jah

Encl.

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

October 6, 1978

Mr. Ray Williamson  
933 Rothowood Road  
Lynchburg, VA 24503

Dear Ray:

[REDACTED] ident  
[REDACTED] and  
[REDACTED] recovered.

Jim Spilman advises me that you were going to work up a reply to Walter Breen's calculation as to the English copper coins which I mentioned in my article in the Centennial publication of ANS. I did make a mistake in calculation, but so did he. If you want me to look over what you have written in its present state I will be delighted to and to help you finish it in any way I can. If, however, you want to finish it without my interjection I will, of course, be delighted.

In any event, I am glad for the opportunity to say "hello" and to send you my very best.

Cordially,

Eric P. Newman

jah

GrayLine "Snap-A-Way"

GrayLine "Snap-A-Way"

GrayLine "Snap-A-Way"

GrayLine "Snap-A-Way"

## SPEED LETTER®

TO

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

FROM

J.C.Spilman/CNL  
P.O.Box 4411  
Huntsville, Alabama 35802

SUBJECT

— NO. 9 &amp; 10 FOLD

MESSAGE

DATE October 1, 1978 19

Dear Eric:

In your Acknowledgements of your "Philadelphia Highway Coin Find" article that appeared in the March 1978 issue of the Numismatist you mentioned the laboratory facilities of the Center for Archaeometry at Washington University in St. Louis. Could you please tell me who to contact so that I can learn the capabilities of this facility. My specific interest is that the CNL Foundation now has a hundred or more specimens - mostly Connecticuts and Fugios - that have been donated for scientific examination, all attributed by die variety, and suitable for destructive testing, if necessary, although I anticipate that non-destructive testing will give us all of the information that is necessary. I need to learn the present state-of-the-art, if you will, in modern testing techniques and analytical techniques so that we can begin to sort out the Early American coinages using modern techniques and statistically significant quantities of specimens. The question is how to start, and where?

Secondly - Ray Williamson is, I fear, not going to be able to complete his efforts on the rebuttal to WHB's calculations. He has not told me this in so many words but my interpretation of his recent remarks in letters leads me to believe that this will be the outcome unless someone gives him some additional encouragement.

— NO. 9 FOLD

— NO. 10 FOLD

might help him along.

SIGNED

Best regards,

REPLY

asked priority. So - a word from you

JCS

DATE

19

— NO. 9 &amp; 10 FOLD

SIGNED

## SPEED LETTER®

TO FROM

Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis, MO 63105

J.C. Spilman/CNL  
P.O. Box 4411  
Huntsville, Alabama 35802

SUBJECT

--- NO. 9 &amp; 10 FOLD

MESSAGE

DATE 9-2-78

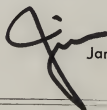
19

Dear Eric:

A couple of extra copies on CNL #52 with Vlack's "1783" Washington varieties is in the mail to you under separate cover. I plan to reprint the two foldout plates if Bob can come up with some better prints -- those plates were made up from four of Bob's 1961 plates which were third or fourth generation prints and had lost the contrast necessary for good halftone reproduction.

I did not make it to the Houston ANA Convention this year, and I just missed you by one day at the Atlanta convention last year. Next year in St. Louis my wife and I are planning to attend and will stay for several days -- and -- I hope that I finally get to meet you personally after all this time! I am looking forward to meeting you and examining that numismatic library that you tell me about from time to time.

Best regards,



James C. Spilman

SIGNED

REPLY

DATE

19

--- NO. 9 FOLD

--- NO. 10 FOLD

--- NO. 9 &amp; 10 FOLD

SIGNED



August 28, 1978

Mr. Jim Spilman  
The Colonial Newsletter Foundation, Inc.  
P. O. Box 4411  
Huntsville, AL 35802

Dear Jim:

Would you be kind enough to send me another copy of the most recent Colonial Newsletter with the Washington 1783 die varieties. I need it for my Washington file as my copy stays with the set.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

jah

TO FROM

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

James C. Spilman/CNL  
P.O.Box 4411  
Huntsville, Alabama 35802

SUBJECT

— NO. 9 & 10 FOLD

Dear Eric:

MESSAGE

DATE

June 8

19 79

About St. Louis ANA Convention --- at present my tentative plans are that wife and I will attend the convention for several days, perhaps three or four, but depending on quite a few unknowns such as availability of gasoline or airline reservations, etc. & etc. My thinking is that we will fly from Huntsville to St. Louis in order to save time during travel and to get as much mileage out of my limited vacation time as possible.

We have not yet registered or made hotel reservations. During the July 29 through August 3 dates, what would you suggest as the most useful time period -- ? -- I have not seen a schedule of events or details of the Auction Sale.

We are looking forward to meeting you after all these years!

Best regards,

 J.C.S pilman

— NO. 9 FOLD

— NO. 10 FOLD

SIGNED

REPLY

DATE

6-13

19 79

*In particular (you will enjoy)*  
The Educational Forum is 8PM Aug 1 (Peter Gaspar)  
The Paper Money Banquet is Aug 2 (19 am speaking on other then Colonial)  
The ANA dinner is Aug 3 (not usually exciting)  
The auction schedules ought to be in Coin World now, as the Numismatist didn't have the schedules of events.

*look forward to seeing you*



— NO. 9 & 10 FOLD

SIGNED

2/6/79

Mr. Jim Spilman

Dear Jim:

I need an extra copy of CNL Serial No. 53 of October, 1973. An item I wrote is in there.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Eric P. Newman', with a stylized, cursive script.

Eric P. Newman

*From the desk of*  
*ERIC P. NEWMAN*

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

November 17, 1980

Mr. James C. Spilman  
P.O. Box 4411  
Huntsville, AL 35802

Dear Jim:

I have been asked to prepare my monograph entitled Coinage For Colonial Virginia for reprinting. Supplementary material was published in the American Numismatic Society Museum Notes and in Colonial Newsletter.

I would appreciate it very much if you would look in your file to see what you might have on Virginia coinage which you would have published and which you may have received and not have published. That would be most helpful.

My kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

jah

January 21, 1981

Mr. Jim Spilman

Dear Jim:

Many thanks for your checking your  
Virginia material for me.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

jah

*From the desk of*  
*ERIC P. NEWMAN*

FROM

James C. Spilman

The Colonial Newsletter Foundation, Inc.

P. O. BOX 4411

HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA 35802

TO Mr. Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

SUBJECT: Your letters of 9/29/81, 10/18/81 and 11/2/81 DATE: November 15, 1981

FOLD

Dear Eric: Many thanks for your recent letters and notes tabulated above, and for the various enclosures that were included. I have been swamped with things non-numismatic for the past several months and am just now beginning to catch-up.

Your offer to assist with information and photographs for The Annotated Betts is sincerely appreciated. This is an area that I personally know very little about except that it appears to be one of the great unsolved mysteries of early American numismatics. That is -- what IS and what IS NOT of American origin. I will contact you at a later date as I begin to get the various photographs sorted out that I will need to augment the Betts. As you would expect I have received a number of evasion pieces for examination (is there a better reference on these than Peterson's 1956 plates and tables from the Numismatist?) Enclosed is one photograph that I made of a humdinger that was sent to me -- it appears to be a GEO II 1/2d of 1752, obviously a fake of some sort, but is it American, British, or what? Where does one start with a specimen such as this? Please keep the photos for your files if you wish.

As for the Vlack/Fuld reprint of Betts, there was nothing new in it. It was nicely printed and permanently bound in red cloth and stamped in gold on the spine BETTS -- COUNTEFFEIT HALF PENCE. About 30 blank pages were included to accommodate the binding, but there was no identification whatsoever as to its source. It included only the text pages 1-17, not even the cover sheet.

The text of Batty would be very helpful to me Eric. Please send.

In great haste, as usual, -- Best regards,



JCS

PLEASE REPLY TO →

SIGNED

REPLY

DATE:

SIGNED

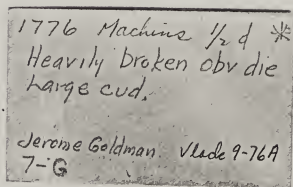
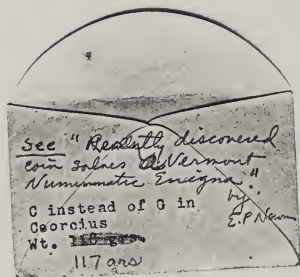
1776 Imitation British  $\frac{1}{2}$  P \*  
 from Fairfield Co. Conn. board  
 Minted at Machin's Mills in  
 1786. Same head, seated lady &  
 letter punches as Vermont  
 cents. Same number punches as  
 1786 Conn. Rev. A. Identical ob-  
 verse used with Liber Natus.  
~~Unique~~ oex \$100.00  
 Unc. weak 7-G Vlaid 9-76A



1776 Machine.  $\frac{1}{2}$  d \*  
 Heavily broken obv die  
 large cud.

Jerome Goldman, Vlaid 9-76A  
 7-G







1781. Clf Eng 1/2d \*

Batty 3822



1781. Clf Eng 1/2d \*

Batty 3823



1781. Clf Eng 1/2d

Similar to Batty 3824



1785 Clf Eng 1/2d \*

Not in Batty



1785. Clf Eng 1/2d \*



8 July 1982

James Spilman  
Colonial Newsletter

Dear Jim:

The Apr 1982 issue of CN with mint machinery is fascinating. I had studied this area substantially in the past. You added so much.

There are illustrations on English tokens of the 18<sup>th</sup> century showing coin presses. I have them if you are not familiar with them. They are probably 1790  $\pm$ .

I do have in my collection iron punches for the ornaments for Connecticut coppers. These were apparently used to make the dies. I will gladly send them to you for study. I have taken pictures of their ends and I can look for those. This is what I believe you wanted to know about so let me know your wishes

Kindest regards.

Eric.

6450 Cecil Ave  
St Louis, Mo 63105

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

August 18, 1982

Mr. James C. Spilman  
P. O. Box 4411  
Huntsville, AL 35802

Dear Jim:

My two English tokens with pictures of coining machines are in my museum under the category "Preparation of Coins". Due to the security system at the bank, I will have to wait for the next time the museum cases are opened in order to take them out and send them to you for pictures.

I have never examined the small press at the U. S. Mint. I had always assumed it was the press on which the 1792 Half Dime was struck. I know that some of the parts are missing. I was not familiar with the fact that sinking letters into dies was done on a press and not done by hand.

As to the Connecticut punches, I am wondering why they were not made out of wood to press into sand molds if only a few lead ornament slugs were to be made. Why should they have gone to the trouble of making steel punches? What was the procedure for making slugs 100 years ago. My punches seem to have been ground off a little so that the design could be readily seen.

You certainly got involved in a fascinating subject.

Cordially,

Eric P. Newman

jah

TO

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis, MO 63105

FROM

James C. Spilman

The Colonial Newsletter Foundation, Inc.

P. O. BOX 4411

HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA 35802

SUBJECT: Your letter of 8 July 1982

DATE: 8-12-82

FOLD ↓

Dear Eric:

Many thanks for your letter and suggestions. I would appreciate your loan, or photographs, of ~~the~~ English tokens illustrating coinage presses. I was familiar with these but have not had the opportunity, or time, to obtain good photos etc necessary to publish the illustrations in CNL. They would make a good appendix to the "Overview". I plan at least two more sections to this "Overview". The next will discuss planchet cutters, and finally what little I know of dies, hubs and associated tools, ~~and finally~~ <sup>plus</sup>, the numismatic evidence that supports the conclusions, especially the automatic feeders used on presses for the Connecticut and Fugios, and the types of cutters used on the planchet presses.

Speaking of coinage presses; The U S Mint has, for years, been promoting a small press as the first U S coinage press. It is much too small to be a coppers press and I believe it to be a die sinkers press for sinking lettering into dies. I examined this press a few years ago in the Phila. mint and reached these conclusions. The small sector handle on this, I believe, is the equivalent of a hammer used to sink each punch through a lettering guide secured just above the die face. Do you have any information or opinions on this subject. This certainly is NOT the press described by George Escol Sellers in his Early Engineering Reminiscences where a large spring was used to return the fly, nor the press described at the New Jersey operations, later believed sold by Hanna Ogden to the U S Mint.

Some years ago you loaned to me the "Crosby punches" which I photographed and made impressions in lead. I also have the Craige impressions made by Craige/Picker in a die. So these will not be

PLEASE REPLY TO →

SIGNED of use at the moment. Rather simple optical comparisons will

REPLY

permit a determination of what these really are. At the moment I lean toward their use to make the printing slugs for Crosby, the Book!

Best regards,



JCS

DATE:

SIGNED

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

*6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105*

September 20, 1982

Mr. James C. Spilman  
P. O. Box 4411  
Huntsville, AL 35802

Dear Jim:

I enclose a photocopy of an item for sale in New York on September 30, 1982, at 1:30 p.m.. It looks as though it has substantial coining machinery of Europe as of 1762. Its value is estimated at \$100 to \$150. There is a 10% bidder's premium. There is a reserve on the item, which reserve is probably \$100.

If you don't feel it should be bought, perhaps the American Numismatic Society will have it for examination.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

jah

TO Mr., Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis, MO 63105

FROM James C. Spilman  
The Colonial Newsletter Foundation, Inc.  
P. O. BOX 4411  
HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA 35802


SUBJECT: Coinage presses on Coins/Tokens/Medals etal DATE: 10-4-82

FOLD ↑

Dear Eric:

The attached several Xerox pages from Dalton & Hamer, and other publications, show all of the coinage presses of this sort that are known to me. Are yours some of these, or additional ones? If they are the same as these then there is no great rush — if different I would certainly like to have good photographs and will appreciate your sending them to me for examination and photography when ever it is convenient for you.

Many thanks for sending the Xerox of the book in the Swann Galleries sale. Your note did not arrive in time for me to take action on it (my delay, not yours — I did not get to the P.O.Box in time!) but now that I have the reference I will track down a copy someplace and obtain a set of reproduction quality film copies. Do you have any such illustrations in your Library? From old books that may not be generally known to numismatists?

Thanks again,  
Best regards,  
  
JCS

PLEASE REPLY TO → SIGNED

REPLY

DATE: SIGNED

# Middlesex.

169

## SPENCE'S.

### Blue Coat Boy.



724

724. O: Figure of a scholar. As No. 707.  
R: Figure of a collegian. As No. 704.  
E: Plain. A. 557



726



724

O: for Nos. 725-739

### British Liberty.

Nos. 725-739. O: A sailor seizing a landsman.

725. R: THOS. SPENCE, &c. As No. 677.  
E: PAYABLE IN LONDON. The remainder engraved. A. 559

725a. E: Milled.

726. R: Two men boxing. FASHIONABLE AMUSEMENT 1790.

E: SPENCE X A. 560

726a. E: Milled. A. 560a

727. R: Britannia. As No. 678.

E: PAYABLE IN LONDON and engraved. A. 561

728. R: Caduceus. As No. 679.

E: SPENCE X A. 562

729. R: Citizens armed. As No. 681.

E: SPENCE X A. 563a

729a. E: SKIDMORE HOLBORN LONDON. A. 563

729b. E: Plain. A. 563b

730. R: Free-born Englishman. As No. 709.

E: SPENCE X A. 564

730a. E: Milled. A. 564a

731. R: Heart and Hand. As No. 682.

E: PAYABLE IN LONDON and engraved. A. 565

\* BRITISH \* LIBERTY \* DISPLAYED \* E: 1795.

732. R: Indian. As No. 684.

E: SPENCE X A. 566

733. R: Lion dismayed. As No. 685.

E: Plain. A. 567

734. R: Odd Fellows (man and ass). As No. 686.

E: PAYABLE IN LONDON and engraved. A. 568

734a. E: Milled.

735. R: The beginning of Oppression. As No. 687.

E: SPENCE X A. 569

736. R: After the Revolution. As No. 689.

E: Plain. A. 570

737. R: Shepherd. As No. 690.

E: PAYABLE IN LONDON and engraved. A. 571

738. R: Turnstile. As No. 693.

E: Plain. A. 572

739. R: A guillotine and part of a house.

E: Plain. A. 573.

### Coining Press.

Nos. 740-743. O: A "COINING PRESS," INSCRIBED TO COLLECTORS OF MEDALS \* 1796.

740. R: Two men boxing. As No. 726.

E: SPENCE X A. 574

740a. E: PAYABLE AT THE WAREHOUSE OF ALEX<sup>r</sup> MOLISON.

740b. E: Plain. A. 574a

741. R: A harp crowded, between thistles. ENGLAND, IRELAND, SCOTLAND, 1796

E: SPENCE X A. 575

742. R: Highlander. As No. 683.

E: SPENCE X A. 576

743. R: Turnstile. As No. 693.

E: Plain. A. 577



O: for Nos. 740-743



741

Rarity—Nos. 707a, 711a, 714, a, 721, a, 725a, 734a, 739, 740a, b, RR. 716, a, 722, 726a, 730a, R. 710, 711, 712, 717, 718, 719, 723, 726, 727, 729, 731, 732, 734, 736, 738, 743, scarce. The others, fairly common.



Warwickshire.  
FARTHING.  
BIRMINGHAM.



475



476



477



475. O: Bust to right. DR. SAMUEL JOHNSON  
R: Three lions. PROMISSORY HALF HALF-  
PENNY PAYABLE AT .  
E: Milled. A. 331

476. O: A female seated upon a rock, holding a  
fasces. COPPER COMPANY. *Ex:* 1791.  
R: A stork standing upon a cornucopia of  
flowers. FARTHING.  
E: Milled. A. 332  
476a. E: Plain (not in collar). A. 332a

477. O: and R: Struck from halfpenny dies. A. 333



478



479



481



478. O: The same as No. —.  
R: MAY A | FLOWING | TRADE FOLLOW | A  
SPEEDY AND | HONORABLE | PEACE |  
1796.  
E: Milled. A. 334  
478a. E: Plain (not in collar). A. 334a

479. O: Bust to left in cocked hat, a small  
cross under. GENERAL ELLIOT.  
R: A fleur-de-lis. BIRMINGHAM HALF  
HALFPENNY.  
E: Milled. A. 335

480. O: Impression of the obverse die of No. 481.  
R: Blank.  
E: As No. 481.

481. O: Bust to left. JOHN HOWARD. F.R.S.  
R: A cypher, H.H. BIRMINGHAM PROMISSORY FARTHING.  
E: H. HICKMANS WAREHOUSE BIRMINGHAM. A. 336  
481a. E: Plain (not in collar). A. 336a

482. O: A figure standing on a pedestal; upon an oval is DIE  
SINER.—PROVINCIAL COINS & MEDALS. *Ex:* & ENGRAVER.  
R: A coining press. LUTWICHES MANUFACTORY BIRMINGHAM.  
A. 337

483. O: and R: Struck from the centres of No. 70  
(GENERAL ELLIOT).

STRATFORD.

484. O: Bust of Shakespeare. STRATFORD PROMISSORY HALF  
HALFPENNY.  
R: STRUCK | IN HONOR AND | TO PERPETUATE | THE MEMORY  
OF | SHAKESPEARE | BORN APRIL 1564 | DIED APRIL |  
1616.  
E: Milled. A. 338

WILLEY.

485. O: and R: Struck from the halfpenny dies of No. 374,  
OVER ISAAC NEWTON FARTHING.  
E: Milled.

Rarity—Nos. 476, 485, RRR. 477, 480, 483, RR. 478, a, 484, R.  
475, 479, 481, scarce. The others, common.



# Warwickshire. BIRMINGHAM.



219



## LUTWYCHE'S.

219. O: A figure of Justice seated, holding a pair of scales. MEDALS & PROVINCIAL COINS. LUT: DEA PECUNIA.

R: A coining press. LUTWYCHES MANUFACTORY. EX: BIRMINGHAM.

E: Milled ///// A. 163



219a. E: PAYABLE BY SAMUEL PRENTICE × × ×

219b. E: Plain (in collar). A. 163b

219c. E: Plain (not in collar) rounded.

220. O: As last.

R: Bust of George III. and Queen Charlotte. LONG MAY THEY REIGN OVER A GRATEFULL PEOPLE.

E: Plain. A. 164



220



## PRIESTLEY.

221. O: Bust to right. J. PRIESTLEY CITIZEN OF THE WORLD.

R: The flame of liberty proceeding from the tomb of "HAMPTDEN & SIDNEY." SACRED TO LIBERTY.

E: Milled. A. 187

221a. E: Milled over lettering.



221



## PYE'S.

222. O: Proof of obverse of No. 223.

R: Blank. Struck in white-metal.

223. O: A cypher C.P. 1797 under. BIRMINGHAM HALFPENNY FOR EXCHANGE.

R: Female seated beside boring tools, pouring medals from a cornucopia. A beehive on a stand in front. THE SUPPORT OF BRITAIN.

E: Plain (in collar). A. 165



223



## SKIDMORE'S.

- Nos. 224-227. O: A cypher P. S. BIRMINGHAM HALFPENNY 1792.

224. R: Bust in cocked hat. GENERAL ELLIOT. E: Plain. A. 166

224a. E: YORK BUILT . A.M. 1223 CATHEDRAL REBUILT A.D. 1075.

224b. E: Milled.

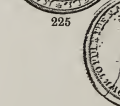
225. R: Two men in a foundry, &c. E: Milled. A. 166 Bis

226. R: Two busts, &c. E: Milled. A. 167

227. R: Bust to left. MAY THE FRENCH, &c. E: Milled. A. 168



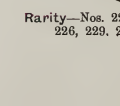
224



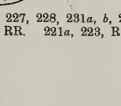
225



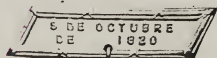
226



227



Rarity—Nos. 224a, 227, 228, 231a, b, 235a, b, RRR. 219a, c, d, 221, 222, 224b, 225, 226, 229, 230, RR. 221a, 223, R. 224, 234, scarce. The others, common.



1113

1103  
Photo  
Reduced



1105



1120

LOT#	DESCRIPTION	COLOMBIA	ESTIMATE	
1101	MEDINA 328 1808, Silver, 25mm, Nueva Granada, Obv: Crowned Coat of Arms, to left "NA E INDIAS", to right "REI DE ESPA", Rev: Legend in 6 lines "AUGUSTA PROCLAMACION DEL N.R.D.G. POR FERNANDO VII SEP. 11 DE 1808", VF weak reverse. . . . .		30-45.00	
* 1102	UNDATED, Silver, 35mm, Coin-like Medal, Obv: Bust of Ferdinand VII facing right, Rev: Crown shield and pillars of Spain, below are dates "1538 1938". This must be commemorating 400th anniversary of some event, but catalogue is not aware of true significance, AU. . . . .		40-70.00	
1103	<p>A HISTORICAL &amp; RARE SET OF SEVEN (7) COMMEMORATIVE MEDALS in a handsome black velvet case together with documentation of each piece, including number struck and description of each. Documentation confirms that only 5 of the first medal were struck in Silver and only 1 in Gold. The remaining medals of the set were struck in quantities ranging from 500 to 2,000.</p> <p>(1) 1948, Silver, 49mm, Homage to Dr. Luis Angel Arango, Manager of Banco de la Republica, Obv: An old-fashioned coin press; Rev: In 7 lines "AL DOCTOR/LUIS ANGEL ARANGO/GERENTE DEL/BANCO DE LA REPUBLICA/EL PERSONAL DE LA/CASA DE MONEDA/1948" surrounded by a high relief laureated wreath. MINTAGE: Only 5 in Silver, and only 1 in Gold.</p> <p>(2) Silver, 38mm, Commemorating the 25th Anniversary of Banco de la Republica (1923-1948). Obv: Bust of Liberty facing right; Rev: Map of the Republic. MINTAGE: Only 500 struck.</p> <p>(3) Silver, 32mm, Commemorating the 15th Anniversary of Gold Museum (1939-1954). Obv: In the field is an ornate designed "TAIRONA FIGURE"; Rev: In 3 lines "XV/ANIVERSARIO/1939-1954". MINTAGE: Only 500 struck.</p> <p>(4) Silver, 38mm, 150th Anniversary of Independence (1810-1960). Obv: A large building in the field; Rev: Coat of Arms. MINTAGE: Only 666 struck.</p> <p>(5) 1961, Silver, 44mm, Inauguration of Numismatic Museum of Banco de la Republica. Obv: The design of Gold 2 Escudos of 1627 (first gold coin struck in Santa Fe); Rev: In 6 lines "BANCO DE LA/REPUBLICA/MUSEO/NUMISMATICO/BOGOTA/COLOMBIA". MINTAGE: 1,000 Pieces.</p> <p>(6) Silver, 44mm, Commemorating the 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Boyaga (1819-1969). Obv: Statue of Bolivar; Rev: Coat of Arms of the Republic. MINTAGE: 1,000 Pieces.</p> <p>(7) 1968, Silver, 44mm, Commemorating Visit of Pope Paul VI, Obv: In a recesses circle in the field is the Bust of Pablo VI facing left; Rev: Ornate design. MINTAGE: 2,000 Pieces.</p> <p>Set of all 7 pieces, beautifully toned, UNC . . . . .</p>			200-400.00
DENMARK				
1104	1864, Bronze, 30mm, Obv: Bust of King Christian IX facing right, to left "CHRISTIAN IX", to right "KONGE AF DANMARK"; Rev: In the field within a beaded circle "1864", and within a larger beaded circle around edge "FOR DEELTAGELSE I KRIGEN", Pine. . . . .		8-12.00	
* 1105	1912, Silver, 45mm, Obv: Bust of Christian X facing right, legend above and around "CHRISTIAN X KONGE AF DANMARK"; Rev: X within an ornate design with crown above, legend around "MIN-GUD-MIT-LAND-OG-MIN-JERE", in exergue "15-MAJ 1912", UNC toned. . . . .		50-100.00	
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC				
* 1106	Bronze, 46mm, Military Decoration, 25 points suspended from bar with clasp and ribbon, Obv: Trujillo facing right with 5 stars above; Rev: Dominican coat of arms in center, legend in two lines around, Inner Legend: "ANO DEL BENEFACITOR DE LA PATRIA", Outer Legend "25 ANOS DE LA GLORIOSA ERA DE TRUJILLO", VF-XF . . . . .		30-50.00	
* 1107	Silver and multicolored enamel, 80mm, Military Decoration, Obv: Trujillo facing right, above 8 stars, below "ORDEN DE TRUJILLO" sitting on six gold, blue, and white enamel flags which are sitting on a green outlined white enamel Maltese cross; Rev: Within a circle in center Henri Walravens/9 Rue Joseph Claes/Bruelles/MIDI, around 'Fabrique D'Ordres Belges Et Etrangers', VF 60-100.00			
1108	1956, Silvered Bronze, 75mm, Obv: Bust of Trujillo, 5 stars in exergue, 2 line legend above and around "GENERALISIMO RAFAEL LEONIDAS TRUJILLO MOLINA/PADRE DE LA PATRIA NUEVA"; Rev: Allegorical hands holding torch, above are 5 stars, Legend around "FERIA DE LA PAZ Y CON-FRATERNIDAD DEL MUNDO LIBRE", in exergue "ANO DEL BENEFACITOR/DE LA PATRIA/1955-1956" in 3 lines, Fine . . . . .		30-50.00	
ECUADOR				
"The Medals of Ecuador" by Al Almanzar and Dale Seppa was used as reference in listing the following.				
1109	EC4 1891, Bronze, 60mm, Obv: Building in field, Legend above and around "EXPOSICION NACIONAL DEL ECUADOR", and below "DICIEMBRE 9 DE 1891"; Rev: Seated woman, to left "PREMIO/AL/MERITO" above and around "LA MUNICIPALIDAD DE QUITO", and below "MAYO 24 DE 1892", VF minor corrosion in places . . . . .		20-30.00	
1110	EC20 1906, Silver, 30mm, Obv: Commemorative monument of the heroes of 1809; Rev: Coat of arms below is an 8 line legend in Spanish, including the date; holed, probably when issued, VF . . . . .		10-15.00	
1111	EC23 1909, Bronze, 33mm, Commemorating the Centennial of Independence, Obv: Coat of arms, below is "1809-1909", and above "LA MUNICIPALIDAD DE QUITO"; Rev: Within an ornate frame, kneeling women praising heroes, above "GLORIA/A LOS HEROES", and below "DE LA/INDEPENDENCIA", holed, probably when issued, AU toned . . . . .		10-15.00	

where the metal was poured  
into the mold, although this is a prompt answer.

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The Blake & Co. \$20 gold replica is among the most common known to exist. Years ago, the Chrysler Corporation gave them out to anyone who visited a Chrysler show room and took a test drive in a Plymouth Gold Duster. Literally thousands of these pieces were handed out.

TO

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis, MO 63105

FROM

James C. Spilman

The Colonial Newsletter Foundation, Inc.

P. O. BOX 4411

HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA 35802

SUBJECT: "First" U.S. Coinage Press

DATE: 10-8-82


FOLD ↑

Dear Eric:

In 1973 when I examined the U.S. Mint's "First" Coinage Press (that I believe is a die sinkers press) it exhibited the placard as shown on the attached Xerox copy (made from a color slide).

You will note that they claim that it was "used to produce trial coins in 1792 and many of the half-cents and cents of 1793."

Best regards,

 JCS

PLEASE REPLY TO → SIGNED

REPLY

DATE:

SIGNED

United States Mint  
First Coining Press

1792

Throughout the forty-year life of the first mint, coins were laboriously struck on screw presses powered solely by the strong arms of the coiners. Working from five or six o'clock in the morning until eight or nine at night, six days a week, the employees were able to produce only a million coins in the first eight years of operation.

Adam Eckfeldt, who was frequently employed by the mint in 1792 to build machinery, constructed this coining press even before the mint buildings were completed. It was used to produce trial coins in 1792 and many of the half-cents and cents of 1793. Larger presses were soon built (four were in use by April, 1795), so it is probable that this small screw press was retired after striking less than three hundred thousand coins.



ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

October 11, 1982

Mr. James C. Spilman  
The Colonial Newsletter Foundation, Inc.  
P. O. Box 4411  
Huntsville, AL 35802

Dear Jim:

A reply to yours of 10/4/82.

I have long since sent to a friend for photography D & H #482 and #219. They should be back any moment. Some other coins of mine were being photographed, so I sent those tokens along to save you the trouble of doing it.

A WORD OF WARNING. The picture of the \$20 Blake & Co. replica with coining press you sent should not be published by you. There are no genuine originals of the piece in our opinion. The coin is not listed in the Red Book. We feel that the coin press is, therefore, fictitious and not an illustration of anything which existed in 1855 or before.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

jah

BE.

Do you want to  
answer this <sup>NO THANKS</sup>  
letter. <sup>but interesting</sup> The press  
is too small to  
produce quantities  
of corns

From the desk of  
ERIC P. NEWMAN





FROM

Mr. Eric B. Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis, MO 63105

TO

James C. Spilman

The Colonial Newsletter Foundation, Inc.

P. O. BOX 4411

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Mr. Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

FROM

James C. Spilman

The Colonial Newsletter Foundation, Inc.

P. O. BOX 4411

HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA 35802

SUBJECT: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: 10-13-82

FOLD ↑ Dear Eric:

Enclosed are several plates reproduced from Diderot's Encyclopedie that may shed some light on answers to your questions regarding your "Crosby" punches. The first - Printing - discusses the manufacture of type with the use of punches and counterpunches - such as yours - to manufacture the printing slugs.

Next - a couple of illustrations where wood punches are used for gilding.

Finally - several plates on figure lathes in the section on Turning, which is extensive. The first of these that I have sent include several coin and die illustrations (Figs 5, 6, 7 & 8). I have not attempted to obtain the text that describes these particular tools but evidently figure lathes were used in some phase of die manufacture. Probably for something more than simply turning round the final outer diameters. They may have been used for working the faces of hubs in some manner. I thought these might arouse your curiosity a bit - it would be worthwhile, I believe, to obtain a translation of the text that goes with these particular plates. New York City Library is perhaps the best source as they have a complete Diderot and, I believe, translation services for a fee. Diderot comprises seventeen volumes of text and eleven volumes of plates and it is a bit of a chore to relate the correct portions of text to particular plates.

Best regards,

PLEASE REPLY TO →

SIGNED

JCS

REPLY

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_

### Plate 369 Printing I

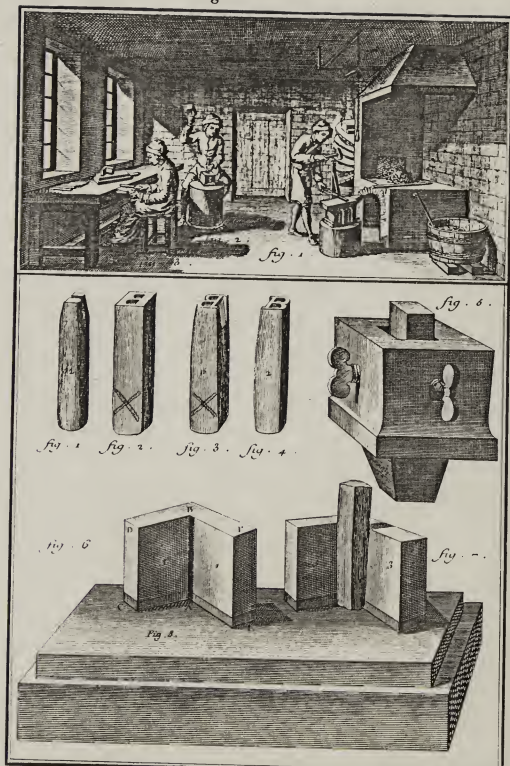
*The 18th century was an age of elegant bookmaking and skillful printing. Indeed, whatever pains the publisher of the present book may take, it is not likely that he will achieve so fine a production as the Encyclopedia itself. It may, therefore, be consoling to reflect that, because of the excellence of 18th century paper and binding, the original text and plates will probably be in good condition centuries hence when these reproductions will have crumbled to dust.*

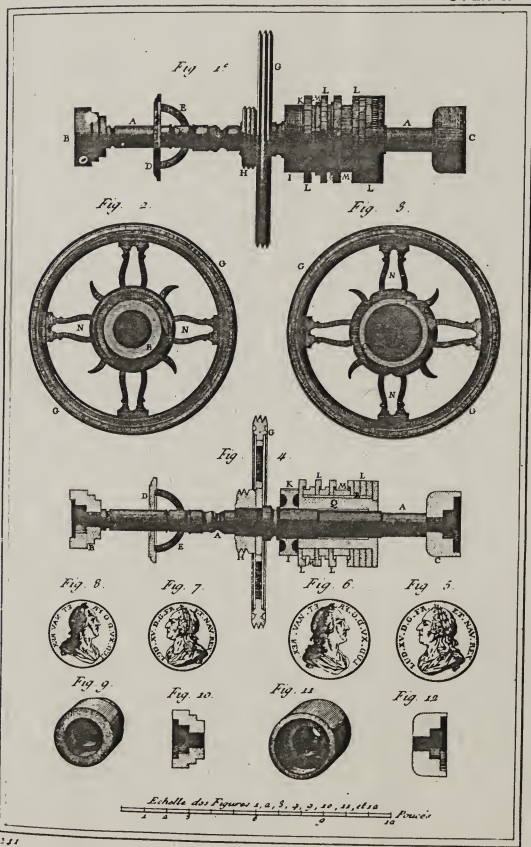
*Printing, too, was at a very high level, much higher, indeed, than the printing of the following century. Type faces were graceful, well-designed, and pleasing to the eye. Pages were admirably planned, perfectly squared, and clearly pressed.*

*The first step in preparing type for printing was manufacturing punches for individual letters of a font. The punch was made of hard, fine steel, a bar of which is being finished at the forge (Fig. 1). This is to be a letter "B", and in Fig. 2 the artisan stamps what will be the loops of the "B" into the heat-softened punch-head, using a counterpunch. A glance at the facing part of the plate will clarify these steps. Fig. 5 is the vise in which the punch is held for stamping, Fig. 1 is the counterpunch, and Fig. 2 (below) shows the punch as it leaves the hands of the stamper (Fig. 2 above). Finally, in Fig. 3, above, the outer edges are delicately filed to leave the "B" as it appears below in Figs. 3 and 4.*

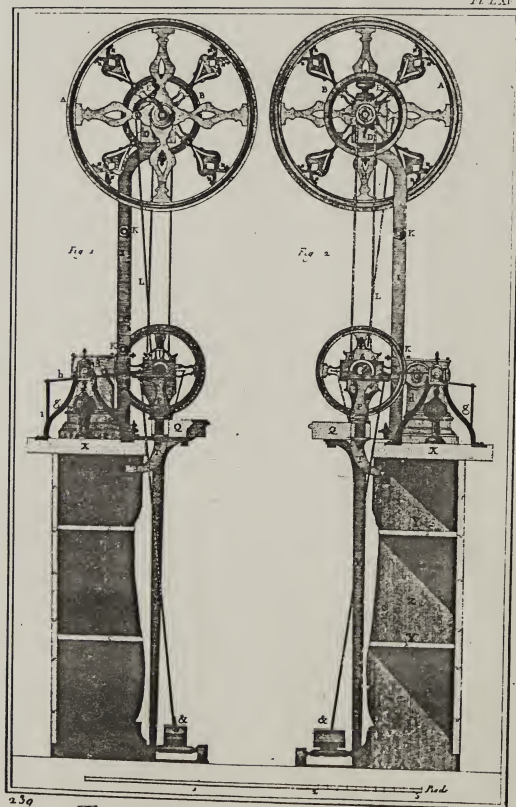
*This required great precision, and a perfect alignment of the axis of the letter. The filer guides himself by means of the device shown in Fig. 7, covering the surface of the stone (Fig. 8) with a film of olive oil to lubricate the filing. Then, he tests the punch by smoking its end and making an impression on a sheet of paper. Finally, the punch must be annealed to give it the hardest possible temper.*

*Unfortunately, there is no plate to illustrate the punching of the matrix. The operation was a simple one, however. The letter was struck into a blank of copper approximately an inch long by a quarter-of-an-inch wide and a sixteenth-of-an-inch thick. This matrix, carrying the negative of the letter, then slipped into the head of a mold assembly in which the letters were finally cast in type metal.*

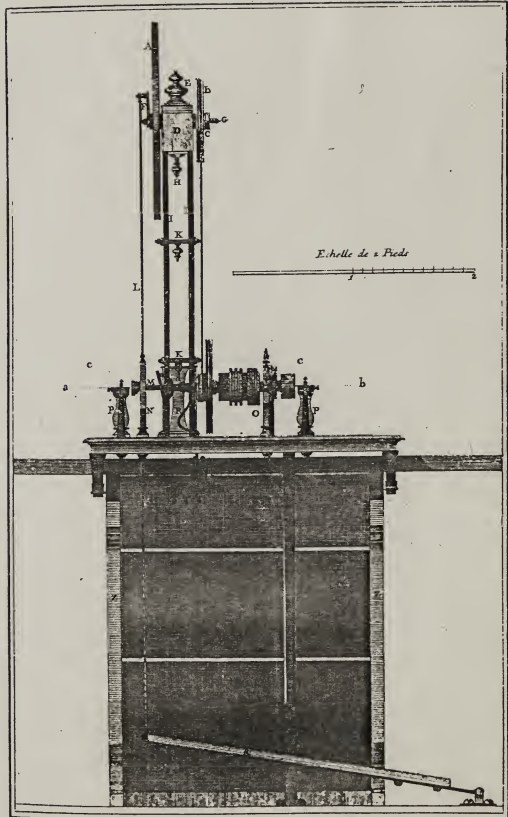




Tourneur, Tour à Figure, Arbre et ses Détails







*Tourneur, Tour à Figure, Elevation en face.*





### Plate 422 Gilding II

To gild leather it is first necessary to print, or emboss, the design on the leather piece. This is accomplished by wood blocks (Fig. 13, opposite). Leather would usually be embellished in various colours with paints (Fig. 1), as well as gold or silver leaf, or both. In either case the metal is applied with a pair of ebony pincers (Fig. 2) on the handle of which is mounted a piece of foxtail which brushes without scratching. Finally, the gilding is pressed into the bosses (Fig. 5), and a polisher gently buffs a gilded leather band (Fig. 4). The tools appear opposite.

# Gilding II

